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Outdoors

June 1949

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this issue:

IS GIVING THE
H A BREAK?

by Lee Wulff

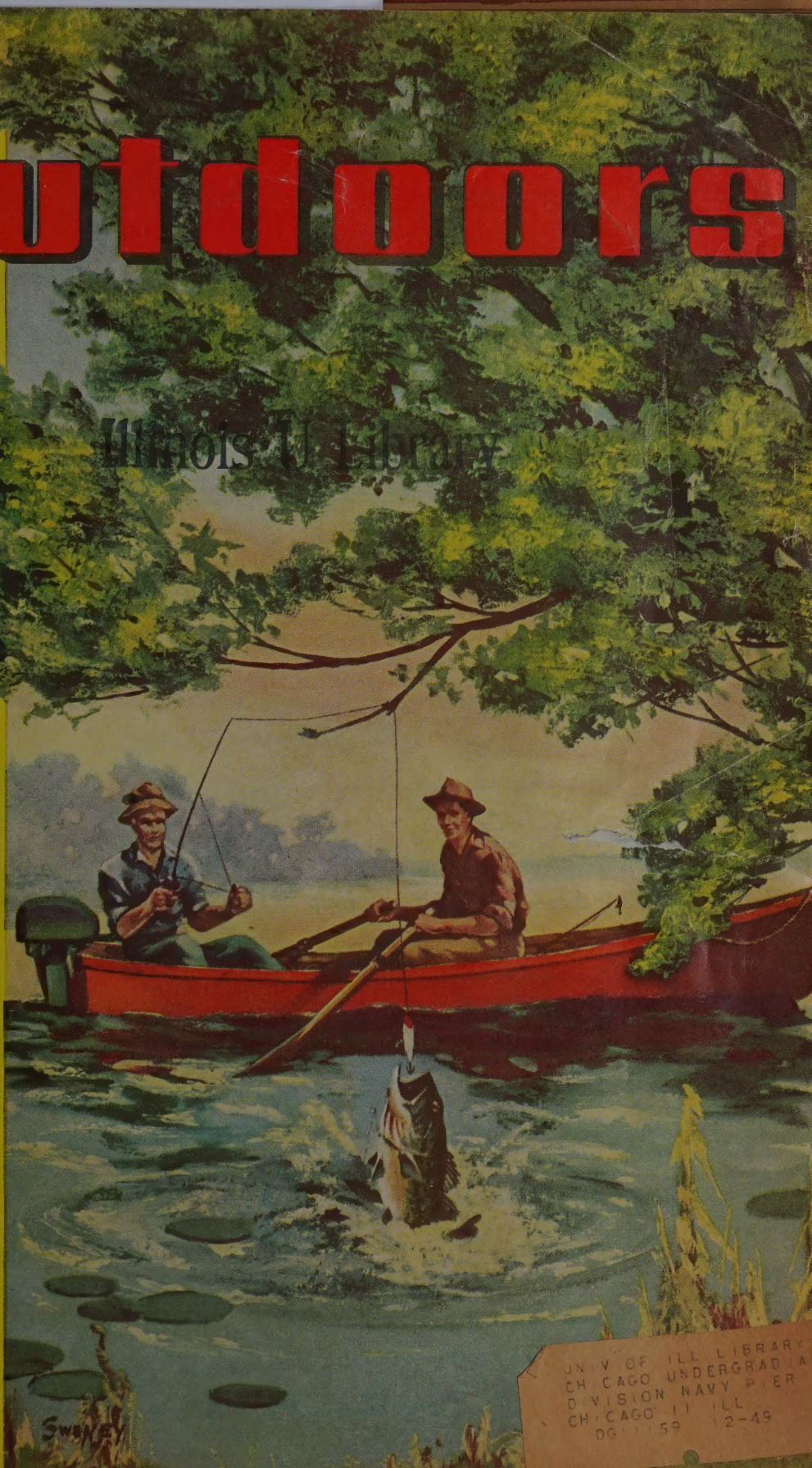
•
NEBAGO MAGIC
by Burton L. Spiller

•
stories and
articles by

LES C. NIEHUIS
M BURRIER
ED ZERN

and

9 FISH LAWS



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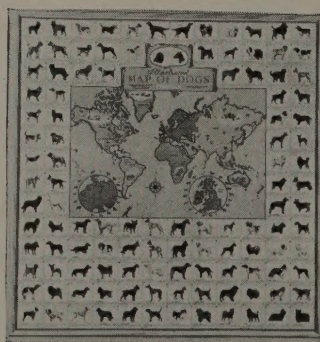
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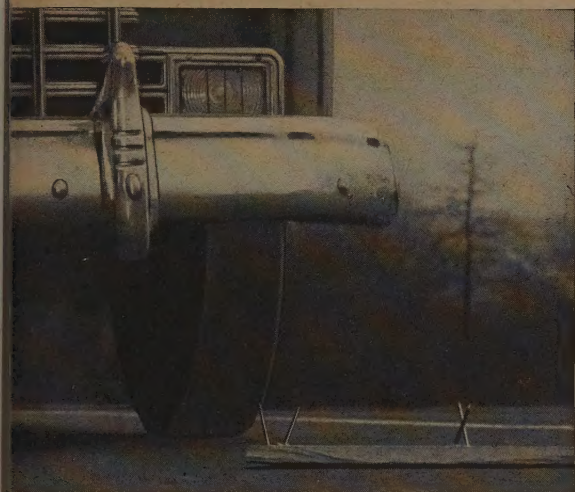
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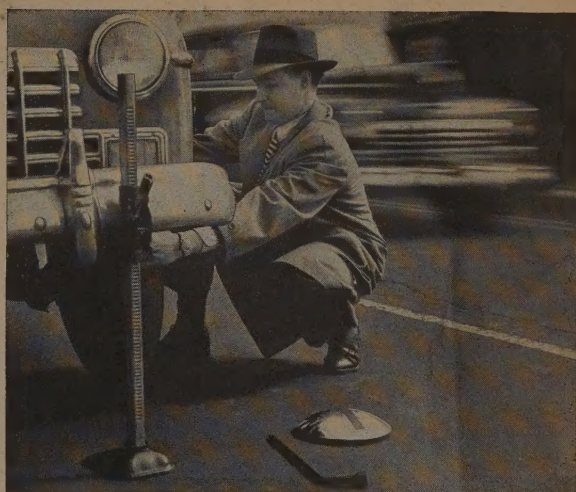
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Outdoors



Vol. XVII

June, 1949

No. 6

H. G. TAPPLY
Editor

E. C. JANES
Associate Editor



JACK MURRAY
Art Director

Features

1949 FISHING LAWS.....	3
WHO'S GIVING THE FISH A BREAK?.....Lee Wulff	10
THE KID CONNECTS.....Charles C. Niehuis	12
PAID OFF IN PIGEONS.....Tom Burrier	14
KENNEBAGO MAGIC.....Burton L. Spiller	16
ED ZERN'S PAGE.....Ed Zern	18

Services

THE MAIL BOX.....	3
WHERE TO GO.....George Robey	5
NEW BOOKS.....	19
FISHING.....Lee Wulff	20
BOATING.....Elon Jessup	32
SHOOTING.....Col. H. P. Sheldon	36
SPORTING DOGS.....Henry P. Davis	42
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING.....	46

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OUTDOORS

The Mail Box



ADDRESSED VENISON

EDITOR: I disagree with your advice to Albert Avery to leave the skin on his deer to insulate the carcass. The skin has oil glands which . . . flavor the meat . . .

J. L. VANCE,
MONROE, N. Y.

EDITOR: I don't believe in skinning a deer before bringing it into camp, but the hide should be removed as soon as possible after that, especially in hot weather. I have hunted deer for 25 years and never yet saw one spoil after the hide was removed . . .

A. J. BEASLEY,
SAN JOSE, CALIF.

EDITOR: To bring out sweet meat, get the hide off big game as soon as possible, but be sure to protect the carcass with a paper bag of muslin to keep off the flies and dirt. I have brought meat home from northern British Columbia, a distance of 2000 miles, many, many times without ever losing an ounce of meat . . .

W. G. VOLKMAN,
NORFOLK, NEBR.

Most guides in the north country prefer to leave the hide on to insulate the carcass, protect it from blow flies, and as means of keeping the meat clean until it is butchered. But those who prefer to remove their game as soon as possible certainly have some good arguments.

ALL ABOUT CARP

EDITOR: Congratulations for publishing Jack Musgrove's story. "I Like Carp Fishing!" I like it, too.

As Mr. Musgrove says, good tackle makes better sport, even with carp. I formerly used a bait casting rod for this thing, but now I use a fly rod, and get much fun with it as I ever did with rodcasting for bass.

In regard to bait, I never use dough balls, as they are too much bother. White bread soaked to a putty-like consistency works just as well . . .

L. J. MARTINEK,
CHICAGO, ILL.

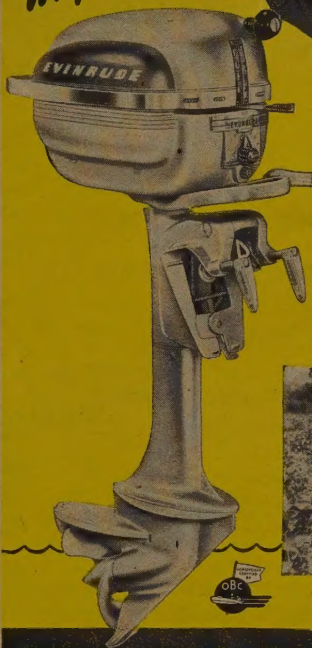
EDITOR: Jack Musgrove is 95% right about what he says about carp fishing. For a

NE, 1949

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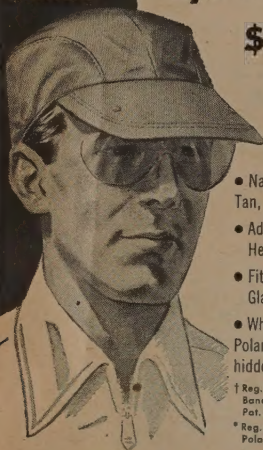
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real thrill, there's nothing like it. . . and the carp is good to eat, too. . .

RAE ANDREWS,
LOVELAND, OHIO

EDITOR: . . . Due to a heart ailment that prevents me from working, I spend seven hours a day, seven days a week, in fishing, from the time the ice goes out until the water freezes again . . . and the carp is my favorite fish . . .

B. F. HAYES,
LITTLE SIoux, IOWA

• Carp fishing is a right popular sport, judging by the many letters we have received commenting on Mr. Musgrove's article. We'll have something else for the carp fishermen coming along soon.

CHICKENS IN REVERSE

EDITOR: To settle an argument, can a prairie chicken run backwards? If, so, how fast?

I say they can't back-pedal, but my neighbor claims he's seen them do it.

VIRGIL SWANSON,
CONRATH, WIS.

• We had to refer this one to John T. Zimmer, curator of the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Said Mr. Zimmer: "Judging by the leg musculature of the bird, I should expect a prairie chicken to have considerable difficulty in running backwards, and I doubt if it could do it."

LAST WORD ON CATS

EDITOR: I am very sorry I subscribed for a magazine that would print an article like "Killers on the Loose," by Byron W. Dalrymple (February OUTDOORS) . . . If you print any more of his articles, please refund my subscription money . . .

STANLEY BENNETT,
GARRETT, IND.

EDITOR: . . . Just tell Mr. Dalrymple to leave our cats alone. I don't have time to count birds, but if my Tommy comes in with one I think he's smart.

MRS. L. M. BRAY,
PINEVILLE, KY.

EDITOR: . . . The idea of licensing cats is good, but it just won't work . . .

R. S. GIFT,
KNEELAND, CALIF.

EDITOR: . . . Will a license stop cats from killing illegally? . . .

H. M. STOUT,
LATROBE, PENNA.

EDITOR: . . . I personally saw a cat bring in six pheasants and four young rabbits in just one week . . .

THEODORE TURNER,
GREAT LAKES, ILL.

EDITOR: . . . I believe the crow causes much more expensive damage than the cat . . .

EDWARD A. ZIEMINSKI,
WALLINGFORD, CONN.

TOO MANY ADS?

EDITOR: I think your catalog is wonderful, but why do you devote so much of its space to silly stories about fishing and hunting? In your March issue you had 30 pages of advertising while the rest of the 54-page magazine was devoted to stories . . .

L. S. WEISPFENNIG,
FREDONIA, N.

• Actually, 28½ pages of advertising, 56 pages, for a 50-50 split. Most issues of this and other magazines run close to 40% advertising and 60% editorial.

CHASE, OR CHASE NOT?

EDITOR: To settle an argument that came up in the barracks, will you give us your opinion on the following question: "On a deer hunting trip in a thick wooded area you shoot a deer, wounding him fatally. Would you run him down immediately or sit back and wait a while before following him?"

SGT. SAL VITTO,
KESSLER FIELD, MISS.

• What you should do in such a case would depend upon circumstances. However, most veteran hunters agree that it is better to wait a while before following up a wounded deer. Finding him not being chased, he may lie down and stiffen up, making the job of finding him—and lugging him out—much easier.

EDITOR: . . . Dogs destroy more game than cats, and I can prove it . . .

GEORGE REISENHOO,
CAHONE, CO.

EDITOR: . . . "Lose a hook and save a bass"—"Kill the cat and save a game" . . .

THOMAS K.
BRIDGEPORT, CT.

EDITOR: . . . I have killed my cats when their torture of birds and small animals had become so sickening I couldn't stand it any more. And the cats were well fed, too . . .

C. F. STANCIL,
WILMINGTON, CA.

EDITOR: If you try to license the feline cats you will soon find "No Hunting" signs on every fence post . . .

ROBERT H.
MONROEVILLE, CA.

EDITOR: I think Mr. Dalrymple's article on cats should be printed in every county newspaper in the United States . . .

DON WHITLAW,
GRANTSVILLE, W.

• And that closes the now-celebrated case of Cat vs. Wildlife. To all the readers who contributed their opinions, sincere thanks and apologies for being unable to acknowledge every letter individually.



Sebago Lake offers early season fishing for landlocks like these

MAINE

By **GEORGE ROBEY, TRAVEL EDITOR**

You'll find the sport you like best in Maine

Most sportsmen think of Maine when they think of landlocked salmon. You can begin at Sebago Lake in April and fish your way through a series of salmon waters northward, ending in June at the Fish River Chain of Lakes in Northern Aroostook County. This would give you several months of as good fishing as anyone could reasonably ask for.

Write Migis Lodge at South Casco, Sebago Lake, about accommodations. Sebago is one of the first large lakes to become free of ice in the spring, usually early in April and the fishing season starts then.

Sebago Lake has smallmouth bass, landlocked salmon, trout and white perch fishing. Salmon fishing is good in spring and again in autumn.

Sharing the spotlight with fresh water fishing in Sebago Lake and others in

Cumberland County is salt water fishing off Bailey Island. There is deep sea sport in the pollock and mackerel, and in fishing for giant tuna in Mark Island Gulley off Bailey Island. Write Driftwood Cottages or Ocean View Hotel at Bailey Island.

There is good fishing for smallmouth bass, pickerel, landlocked salmon, and trout at Long Lake, Highlands and Woods lakes, north of Sebago. Write Christmas Tree Inn or Pioneer Camps at Bridgeton, Me. This is good deer hunting country also.

Maine waters have produced some of the largest brook trout taken on the North American continent. Almost every year a brookie weighing over seven pounds has been taken. Six pounders are not uncommon.

In general, these brook trout inhabit the same waters as the landlocked sal-

PHOTO BY MAINE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



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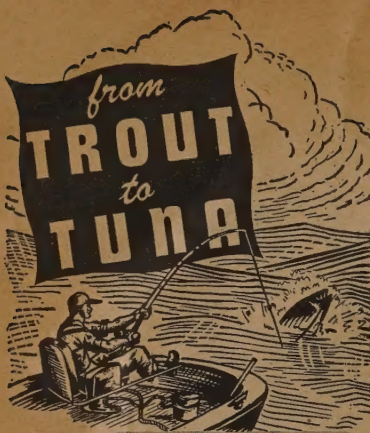
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DOWN HERE in West Palm Beach we go fishin' in the Summertime. During the Season we're too busy taking care of the thousands of fortunate anglers who can arrange Winter Vacations and like a lot of sportsmen we have to take our vacations when the Boss will let us. However the Summer Fishin's just as good — sometimes better.

THE Record Sailfish for the Club was taken in June, and the all-time Club heavy weights in 14 other classes were captured during the Summer Months. The Black Bass, in famous Lake Okeechobee and other nearby spots, are probably more plentiful and cooperative in Summer. The Club has a special Summer Contest for 24 varieties if you like trophies, and year 'round service to visiting anglers who need local geographical and piscatorial advice.

SUMMER rates are lower, of course, and you needn't worry about the heat—with our trade winds and average summer temperature of 84° it'll probably be cooler here than where you are. If you missed last Winter, come on down and go fishin' with us natives.

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RICHARD S. OTTO, Dept. O, San Luis Obispo, California

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mon. Both fish take the same lures. There are exceptions to this rule, of course. Trolling, for instance, is considered the most popular method of taking the salmon. Wobblers and sewn bait are commonly used. Some of the largest salmon have been taken on streamer flies, however. And brook trout are taken in like fashion on fly rods. The most "taking" flies are the 9-3, the Green Ghost, the Green King and the Dasher Tiger.

Kennebec County, next north of Cumberland as a notable fishing center, contains the Belgrade Lakes. A note to the Maine Development Commission at Augusta will bring you a map of the state showing all the lakes and the highways connecting them.

Write Belgrade Lakes Camp at Belgrade Lakes, Me., for information about guides and rates. Other camps in the vicinity include Bailey's Willow Beach Camps at China Lake; Yornoc Lodge at Lake Cobbosseecontee, West Gardiner, Me.; Clements Camps and Bear Spring Camps on Lake Massaloonkee at Oakland, Me.; Packard's Pine Grove Camp at Winthrop serve Lake Androscoggin and numerous smaller lakes and ponds. All the Belgrade Lakes contain landlocked salmon, bass, and trout. This is a good area for deer and upland game.

SOMERSET County embraces such famous fishing waters as Moose River and Moosehead Lake; Long Pond, Bear Wood Lake and Attean Lake, all near Jackman on Highway 201, an improved hard-surface road. This is a lake region long famous for landlocked salmon, trout and togue. It is also good deer, bear and grouse country. Write Henderson Camp or Attean Lake Camps, both at Jackman. At Moosehead Lake, the Maynards-in-Maine Camps or The Birches, both at Rockwood, have good accommodation.

Piscataquis County, Maine's second largest, also includes Moosehead Lake plus hundreds of smaller lakes and ponds. All are famous for landlocked salmon, trout and togue. There are numerous camps in the area. Houghton Spencer Bay Camp at Rockwood is in the center of excellent fishing as well as hunting for deer, bear and grouse. A complete list of camps on other lakes free on request to the Maine Development Commission at Augusta.

The Fish River Chain of Lakes where landlocked salmon fishing remains good through June, lies in Aroostook County. This is in the wildest section of the state and farthest to the north. Eagle Lake Camps at Eagle Lake; Frazer's Bullet Camps and Square Lake Camps at Guerette, Me., are well known and will place you in the heart of the Fish River Chain of Lakes. Trout, salmon and togue fishing is at its best in this area. There are literally hundreds of streams where fly fishing is good.

1949 FISHING LAWS

† Means 1949 regulations not available
‡ Means these laws are not state wide
When in doubt, check local authorities

State and Species	Min. Length	Daily Limit Fish Lbs.	Open Season
ALABAMA			
Bass	10	No closed season	
White lake, striped	10	No closed season	
Bream	10	No closed season	
Crappie, white perch	10	No closed season	
Rock bass, rook-eye	20	No closed season	
Wall-eyed pike	10	No closed season	
LICENSE FEES: Res. \$1 Non-res., \$5; 7-day non-res., \$2.			
ARIZONA			
Trout	10	10 or 10	May 29-Sept. 30
Channel catfish	10	10 or 15	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res. \$1.75; Non-res., \$4; 5-day, \$2.50.			
ARKANSAS			
Bass	10	10	May 16-Mar. 15
Trout	10	6	May 16-Oct. 31
Pike	14	6	No closed season
Jack salmon	14	6	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res. (artificial bait or from boat), \$1.50; Non-res., \$5; Non-res., 10-day, \$2.			
CALIFORNIA			
Bass	5	5	May 1-Feb. 28
Trout	5	5	May 1-Oct. 31
Sunfish	25 (AEC.)	12	May 1-Feb. 28
Salmon	15	15	May 1-Oct. 31
Striped bass	15	15	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res. \$3; Non-res., \$5 (recip.); Non-res., 10-day, \$3.			
COLORADO			
Trout	6"	20 or 10	May 25-Oct. 31
All other species	20 or 10	10	May 25-Oct. 31
Lakes under 3,000 feet altitude open to fishing (all species) the year around.			
LICENSE FEES: Res. \$3; Non-res., \$10; Non-res., 3-day, \$3.			
CONNECTICUT			
Trout	6"	10	Apr. 16-July 15
Lake trout	15"	6	Apr. 16-Aug. 31
Pickering	14"	6	Apr. 16-Feb. 9
Northern pike	20"	6	Apr. 16-Feb. 9
Wall-eyed pike	12"	6	Apr. 16-Feb. 9
Bass	10"	10	Apr. 16-Oct. 31
Calico bass	10"	10	Apr. 16-Oct. 31
Perch	7"	15	Apr. 16-Feb. 9
Sockeye	5	5	Apr. 16-Aug. 31
LICENSE FEES: Res. male, \$4.35; Res. female, \$2.35; Res. 3-day, \$1.85; Non-res., recip. (\$6.35 min.); Non-res. 3-day, \$1.85.			
DELAWARE			
Bass	10"	6	June 25-Feb. 1
Pike, pickerel	10"	6	June 25-Mar. 1
Wall-eyed pike	10"	6	Apr. 16-Aug. 15
Trout	6"	6	Apr. 16-Aug. 15
THESE REGULATIONS APPLY ONLY TO INLAND WATERS.			
LICENSE FEES: Res. \$1.25; Non-res., \$7.50; Non-res., 6-day (consec.), \$3.25.			
FLORIDA			
Bass, black	8	No closed season	
Speckled perch, pike, bream, shell cracker, warmouth perch, stump knocker, red breast, other bream	20 ea.	No closed season	
Jack	25 ea.	No closed season	
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$7.50; Non-res., 10 day, \$2.25.			
GEORGIA			
Bass, striped	10"	No closed season	
Bass, black	10"	No closed season	
Bass, Kentucky	10"	No closed season	
or red-eye	10	No closed season	
Bream, perch	25	No closed season	
Crappie	15	No closed season	
Pickering	15	No closed season	
Wall-eyed pike	3	No closed season	
Muskegunge	2	No closed season	
Trout	3	No closed season	
TOTAL MIXED STRING—30 FISH.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.25; Non-res., \$5.25; Non-res. 30-day, \$2.50; Non-res. 10-day, \$1.50.			
IDAHO			
Trout	6"	20 or 10	June 4-Oct. 31
(over 5 fish)	20 or 10	10	June 4-Oct. 31
Bass	10	10	June 4-Oct. 31
Salmon, steelhead	18"	1 and 1 fish	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$10; Non-res., 5-day, \$3; Allen, \$25.			

State and Species	Min. Length	Daily Limit Fish Lbs.	Open Season
ILLINOIS			
Bass, black, war-	10"	10	May 15-Mar. 31
mouth, white,			
yellow) crappies,	50 (75 in		No closed season
sunfish, bluegills	(AEC.)		
Buffalo, bullhead,			
catfish, carp,			No closed season
sheepshead	7"	8	Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Trout	16"		No closed season
Pickering	15"		No closed season
Wall-eyed pike	15"	10 in agg.	May 1-Feb. 28
Lake trout and white fish			No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.00; Non-res., \$3; Non-res. 10-day, \$1.			
INDIANA			
Bluegill, red-eared			
sunfish, crappie,			
rock bass	5"	25 in agg.	No closed season
Bass, silver or yellow			
black, Kentucky,	10"	6 in agg.	June 16-Apr. 30
Pike-perch	10"	6	June 16-Apr. 30
Pike or pickerel	10"	6	June 16-Apr. 30
Yellow perch	10"	6	June 16-Apr. 30
Trout	7"	15	May 1-Aug. 31
Channel catfish	12"		No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Res., female, \$.50; Non-res., \$2.25; Non-res. 14-day, \$1.			
IOWA			
Trout	8	8	May 1-Nov. 30
Pike, northern	15"	5	May 1-Nov. 30
Bass, largemouth,	10"	5	June 1-Nov. 30
smallmouth	10"	5	June 1-Nov. 30
Pike, sauger,	12"	5	May 1-Nov. 30
Wall-eyed			
Yellow perch, yellow			
bass, striped, silver	15	15	May 1-Nov. 30
Crappie	15	15	No closed season
Warmouth, rock bass,	15	15	June 1-Nov. 30
Sunfish, bluegill	12"	8	Apr. 15-Nov. 30
Catfish	12"	8	Apr. 15-Nov. 30
NOTE: Daily limit of 30 in agg. of all species, except those which have no closed season.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., recip. (min. \$3) Non-res., 6-days, \$1.50.			
KANSAS			
Bass	10"	10	May 25-Apr. 24
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., reciprocal—less than \$3; Non-res., 15-day (consec.), reciprocal—less than \$1.			
KENTUCKY			
Bass, black	10"	10	No closed season
Muskegunge	24"		No closed season
Pike or pike, sand	13"	10	No closed season
Wisk or sauger	13"	10	No closed season
Striped bass	15	15	No closed season
Crappie	15	15	No closed season
Rock bass	15	15	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$5; Non-res., 3-day (consec.), \$1.			
LOUISIANA			
Bass, black	10"	15	No closed season
Bass, yellow, white;	7"	25	No closed season
Crappie	50	50	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Non-res., \$10; Non-res., 7-day, \$2.			
MAINE			
Salmon, togue (a)	14"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 30
Salmon, togue (b)	14"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 15
Salmon, togue (c)	14"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 15
Trout (a)	6"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 30
Trout (b)	6"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 15
Trout (c)	6"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 15
White perch (a)	6"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 30
White perch (b)	6"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 15
White perch (c)	6"	25 or 10	Ice out-Sept. 15
Black bass (a)	10"	25 or 10	June 21-Sept. 15
Black bass (b)	10"	25 or 10	June 21-Sept. 15
Black bass (c)	10"	25 or 10	June 21-Sept. 15
Black bass, 3 per day, fly fishing only, June 1-20			
Pickering	10"	10	No closed season
a—Lakes and ponds.			
b—Rivers above tide-water.			
c—Brooks and streams.			
NOTE: Special local regulations governing fishing in many waters. Consult local authorities.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Non-res., season, \$7.75; Non-res., 3-day, \$3.25; Non-res., 15 days, \$4.75; Non-res., Jr., \$2.25.			
MARYLAND			
Trout	7"	10	Apr. 15-July 15
Striped (rock) bass	10"	10	July 1-Nov. 31
Wall-eyed pike	14"	10	Mar. 15-Nov. 30
Pike, pickerel	14"	10	July 1-Nov. 30
Perch	8"	15	Feb. 15-Nov. 30
Catfish	12"	12	Feb. 15-Nov. 30
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$5.50; Non-res. 3-day, \$1.75.			
MASSACHUSETTS			
Bass	10"	5	July 1-Feb. 15
Pike	14"	5	Apr. 15-Feb. 15
Muskegunge	20"	5	Apr. 15-Feb. 15
Pickering	12"	10	Apr. 15-Feb. 15
Pike-perch	12"	10	Apr. 15-Feb. 15
Salmon	12"	5	Apr. 15-July 31
Trout	12"	5	Apr. 15-July 31
Calico bass, crappie, horned	20	20	Apr. 15-Feb. 15
pout, yellow perch	(cit.)	\$2 (women)	Apr. 15-Feb. 15
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$1.50; Non-res. 15-18, \$1.25; Non-res. (cit.), \$5.25 (minors 15-18, \$2.25); Non-res. 3-day (consec.), \$1.50.			
MICHIGAN			
Trout	7"	15 or 10	Apr. 30-Sept. 11
Bass	10"	5	June 25-Dec. 31
Pike-perch	14"	5	May 15-Mar. 15
Muskegunge	30"	5	May 15-Mar. 15
Lake trout	30"	5	Apr. 30-Sept. 11
White bass	7"	10	Apr. 30-Sept. 11
Crappie, rock bass	10"	10	Apr. 25-Feb. 28
Yellow perch, blue-	6"	15	Apr. 15-Feb. 15
gill, sunfish	6"	15	Apr. 15-Feb. 15
Whitefish	15"	15	Apr. 30-Sept. 11
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$3; Non-res., 10-day, \$2; Trout stamp, \$1.			
MINNESOTA			
Wall-eyed pike, sauger	8	8	May 15-Feb. 15
Northern pike, pickerel	3	3	June 15-Dec. 31
Muskegunge	6	6	June 15-Dec. 31
Bass	6	6	June 20-Nov. 30
Trout	15	15	May 15-Feb. 15
Lake trout	15	15	Jan. 1-Feb. 15
Crappies, sunfish, white	15	15	May 1-Sept. 30
and rock bass	15	15	May 15-Feb. 15
Bullheads	15	15	May 15-Feb. 15
Whitefish	15	15	May 15-Feb. 15
Bluegill	15	15	May 15-Feb. 15
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Husband & wife, \$1.50; Non-res., \$3; Husband & wife, \$4.50.			

State and Species	Min. Length	Daily Limit Fish Lbs.	Season
MISSISSIPPI			
Bass	15	No closed season	
Crappie	15	No closed season	
White perch	15	No closed season	
Sunfish	25	No closed season	
Fifty fish in the aggregate.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., (artificial bait), \$1.25; res., \$5.25.			
MISSOURI			
Wall-eyed pike	4	4	May 28-Nov. 30
Bass, black	6	6	May 28-Nov. 30
White bass	6	6	May 28-Nov. 30
Bass, white, yellow	9	9	Mar. 15-Nov. 30
Bass, warmouth, rock	9	9	Mar. 15-Nov. 30
Crappie	9	9	Mar. 15-Nov. 30
Channel cat	15" (a)	6	Mar. 15-Nov. 30
Bluegill, black perch	12	12	Mar. 15-Nov. 30
(a) Length limit for comm. fishermen only.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$3; Non-res. 5-day, \$1.			
MONTANA			
All game fish . . . 7" (for excess 15 or 10 May 22-Nov. 30 over 5 fish) and 1 fish			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3; Non-res., \$10; Non-res. 3-day, \$2.50.			
NEBRASKA			
Trout	10	10	Apr. 1-10
Bass, black	10"	10	No closed season
White bass	10"	10	No closed season
Crappie	15	15	No closed season
Striped bass, bluegill, bullheads	15"	15"	No closed season
Catfish	12"	10	No closed season
Perch	12"	10	No closed season
Pike (wall-eyed or	5	5	No closed season
Pike, northern	12"	5	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Non-res., recip. (\$2 min.)			
NEVADA			
Bass	25	25	Local season
Catfish	30	30	Local season
All other game fish	25 or 10 pounds	25 or 10	Local season
NOTE: Special limits on Lake Mead and Colorado River. LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.50; Non-res., \$4; Allen, \$5.			
NEW HAMPSHIRE			
Salmon	15"	2	Apr. 1-Aug. 1
Trout, brook	15	15	Apr. 1-Aug. 1
Lake trout	15"	2	(Fly fishing—Sept. 30)
Trout, golden	12"	4	Apr. 15-Aug. 1
Bass, crappie	8	10 lbs.	July 1-Oct. 31
Muskegunge	10"	10	May 28-Oct. 31
Pike-perch	10"	10 fish or 10 lbs.	May 28-Jan. 1
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3.60; Non-res., \$5.25; res., 3-day, \$1.75.			
NEW JERSEY			
Trout	7"	10	(Apr. 15-Jul. 15) (Sept. 1-Sept. 30)
Pike, pickerel and	12"	10	(May 20-Nov. 30) (Jan. 15-15)
Bass, black, Oswego	9"	10	June 15-Nov. 30
Calico bass, rock bass, crappie	6"	20	Apr. 1-Nov. 30
Bass, striped	18"	18"	Apr. 1-Nov. 30
White perch, catfish, sunfish			No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3.15; Non-res., \$5.50.			
NEW MEXICO			
Trout	6"	15 or 6	May 30-Nov. 30
Bass and pike-perch	9"	15 or 15	Apr. 1-15
Crappie	20"	20	Apr. 1-15
Sunfish, ring perch and bream	12"	12	Apr. 1-15
Channel catfish	9"	20 or 25	Apr. 1-15
Bullhead, yellow and mud catfish	20 or 25	20 or 25	No closed season
NOTE: SOME SPECIAL WATERS HAVE LOCAL REGULATIONS.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$3.			
NEW YORK			
Black bass	10"	6	July 1-Nov. 30
Striped bass	15"	3	Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Lake trout	15"	3	Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Muskegunge	15"	2	July 1-Dec. 31
Salmon, landlocked	15"	2	Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Salmon, chinook	20"	3	Apr. 1-Dec. 31
Pike	12"	10	May 1-Mar. 31
Pickerel	12"	10	May 1-Mar. 31
Great northern pike	12"	10	May 1-Mar. 31
Bullhead	7"	10	July 1-Sept. 30
White perch	25	25	No closed season
Perch, white	25	25	No closed season
Crappie, yellow	25	25	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Non-res., \$5.50; res., 3-day, \$2.75.			
NORTH CAROLINA			
Trout	10	10	Apr. 15-Aug. 1
Bass, black	15	8	No closed season
White bass	15	8	No closed season
Muskegunge	24"	3	No closed season
Crappie	15	3	No closed season
Striped bass	12"	8	No closed season
Emitted fish limit of 10 trout, 8 bass, or 25 of all species			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3.10; Daily permit, \$1.60; Comm. permit, \$5.00; Non-res., daily permit, \$1.10; Tourist permit, 5-day, \$2.60; Non-res., \$6.10.			
NORTH DAKOTA			
Perch	25	25	May 16-Oct. 31
Pike	10"	10	May 16-Oct. 31
White bass	15"	15	June 1-Oct. 31
Crappie	6"	13	June 1-Oct. 31
Sunfish	8"	15	June 1-Oct. 31
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$50¢ Non-res., \$3.			
OHIO			
INLAND DIST.			
Muskegunge	30"	2	No closed season
Wall-eyed pike	13"	6	No closed season
Sauger	11"	6	No closed season
Crappie	11"	6	No closed season
Bass	10"	7	Apr. 15-Apr. 30
LAKE ERIE FISHING DIST.			
Muskegunge	No limit	No limit	No closed season
White bass	No limit	No limit	No closed season
Sauger	No limit	No limit	No closed season
Crappie	No limit	No limit	No closed season
Bass	10"	6	Apr. 15-Apr. 30
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.10; Non-res., \$3.25; res., 3-day, \$1.60.			

State and Species	Min. Length	Daily Limit Fish Lbs.	Open Season
OKLAHOMA			
Bass	10"	10	No closed season
Channel catfish	10"	15	No closed season
Crapple	6"	15	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.25; Non-res., \$5; Non-res. 10-day (consec.), \$1.25.			

OREGON			
Trout, salmon, jack salmon, steelhead	6"	10 or 15	May 1-Sept. 30† and 1 fish May 1-Sept. 30†
NOTE: Above regulations apply to fish named, less than 20 inches in length. Special regulations apply to longer fish in various waters. Consult local authorities.			
Perch, crappie, catfish, sunfish, bream, pike	30 or 20	and 1 fish	No closed season†
Striped bass	15		No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$3; age 14-18, \$1; Non-res., \$10.			

PENNSYLVANIA			
Trout, lake or salmon	6"	10	Apr. 15-July 31†
Bass	9"	8	July 1-Nov. 30
Pike-perch	12"	6	July 1-Nov. 30
Pickereel	12"	6	July 1-Nov. 30
Muskelunge	24"	2	July 1-Nov. 30
Pike, northern	16"	4	July 1-Nov. 30
Yellow perch, rock bass, strawberrry or calico bass, white; crappie, sunfish, catfish, suckers, carp	15		No closed season
Special regulations cover Delaware River, Lake Erie and Pymatung Lake.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.10; Non-res., reciprocal (\$2.60 min.); Non-res. 5-day, \$2.10.			

RHODE ISLAND			
Bass	10"	6	June 20-Feb. 20†
Pickereel	12"	10	June 20-Feb. 20†
Trout	7"	10	Apr. 15-July 15†
Perch, white	6"	20	No closed season
Perch, yellow	6"	10	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Res. over 65 and between 15-18, 15c; Res. alien, \$3.50; Non-res. reciprocal (\$3.50 min.); Non-res. Alien, \$5; Tourist, 5-day, \$1.50.			

SOUTH CAROLINA			
Trout, speckled	7"	20	Jan. 1-Sept. 30
Trout, rainbow	8"	20	Jan. 1-Sept. 30
Bullhead, perch	6"	10†	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$5.25.			

SOUTH DAKOTA			
Bass	10"	Keep 8	June 15-Feb. 28
Walleyed pike, pickerel	count all	age 1	May 1-Feb. 28
Trout, bluegill (trout)	6"	15 in age	May 1-Feb. 28
Bullhead, perch	6"	10	May 1-Feb. 28
Crapple, sunfish	15		May 1-Feb. 28
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Non-res., \$3; Non-res., 5-day, \$1.			

TENNESSEE			
Trout	10"		Mar. 1-Oct. 1
Bass	10"		May 30-Mar. 31
Bass	13"		May 30-Mar. 31
Sauger pike	10"		May 30-Mar. 31
Walleyed pike	10"		May 30-Mar. 31
Crapple	20"		May 30-Mar. 31
Rock bass	15"		May 30-Mar. 31
Striped bass	15"		May 30-Mar. 31
Warmouth bass	25"		May 30-Mar. 31
Crappie	15"		May 30-Mar. 31
The first 10 fish caught.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$5; Non-res. 3-day, \$1.			

TEXAS			
Bass, black, spotted	7"	15	No closed season
White bass	7"	15	No closed season
Crapple	25"		No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., (artificial lures) \$1.10; Non-res., \$5; Non-res. 5-day, \$1.10.			

UTAH			
Bass	10"	15 or 7	May 14-Oct. 3
Trout	7"	15 or 7	May 14-Oct. 3
Salmon	15"	15 or 7	June 11-Oct. 3
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Women, \$1; Non-res., \$5; Alien, \$12.			

VERMONT			
Trout	6"	20 or 5	May 1-Aug. 14
lake trout, landlocked salmon	13"	2 or 10	May 1-Aug. 31
Bass	10"		July 1-Nov. 30
Muskelunge	12"		May 1-Apr. 14
Pike-perch	12"		May 1-Mar. 14
Pickereel	12"		May 1-Mar. 14
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.75; Non-res., 14-day, \$3.50; Non-res. 3-day, \$2; Non-res., season, \$5.25.			

VIRGINIA			
Bass	10"	10	June 20-Mar. 15†
Trout	12"	12†	Apr. 20-Sept. 15†
Walleyed pike	20"		No closed season
Crapple, bream	25"		No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., state, \$3; County, \$1; Non-res., 10.			

WASHINGTON			
Steelhead	16"	3	Dec. 1-Mar. 1†
Other game fish	6"	20 or 10	Lowland lakes: Apr. 17-Oct. 31 General season: May 22-Sept. 15 (East) May 22-Oct. 31 (West)
No size limit on bluegill, catfish, crappie, perch or sunfish, but has limit of 20 inches per day.			
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$5; Non-res., \$5; Non-res., 10-day, \$1.50.			

WEST VIRGINIA			
Trout, brook	6"	15	Apr. 30-July 15
Trout, r.brow, brown	7"	10	Apr. 30-July 15
Crappie, bream	9"		June 18-Mar. 31
all others	—		June 18-Apr. 30
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$5; Non-res., 1-day, \$1.			

JUNE, 1949

State and Species	Min. Length	Daily Limit Fish Lbs.	Open Season
WISCONSIN			
Bass, black	10"	5	June 20-Jan. 15†
Bass, white, yellow, rock, panfish	25		No closed season†
Trout	17"	1	Apr. 15-Sept. 30†
Lake trout	17"	1	May 14-Jan. 15†
Walleyed pike	13"	5†	Sauger pike
Northern pike	18"	5†	May 14-Jan. 15†
Perch	13"	5†	Apr. 30-Jan. 15†
Muskelunge	30"	1	May 25-Nov. 1
* Trout opening at 1 p.m. LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Non-res., \$3.			

WYOMING			
All species	20 or 10†		May 1-Oct. 31† and 1 fish
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.50; Non-res., \$10; Tourist, 5-day, \$5; Tourist, 2-day, \$2.			

OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

ALASKA			
Trout and grayling	20 or 15		No closed season†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Non-res., \$2.50.			

ALBERTA			
Lake trout	15	10	May 16-Sept. 15
Trout	8"	15	June 16-Oct. 31
Grayling	8"	15	June 16-Oct. 31
Pike, pickerel	15		May 16-March 31
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2.25; Non-res., \$2.25.			

BRITISH COLUMBIA			
Trout, salmon	8"	15†	Mar. 1-Nov. 30†
Bass	12"		July 1-Mar. 31
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Non-res., \$7.			

MANITOBA			
Lake trout	16"	6	Apr. 16-Sept. 15†
Trout, speckled	11"	6	Apr. 16-Sept. 15†
Bass, black	10"	6	July 1-Sept. 31
Muskelunge	24"	2	May 16-Oct. 31
Arctic grayling	11"	6	June 16-Oct. 31
Walleyed pike	15"	8	May 16-Oct. 31
Northern pike	15"	8	May 16-Oct. 31

NOTE: DAILY LIMIT OF 10 OF ALL SPECIES; NO SESSION LIMIT OF 20 IN AGGREGATE. PROVIDING THAT NOT MORE THAN TWICE ANY PER DIEM LIMIT IS EXCEEDED.

LICENSE FEES: Res., none required; Non-res., \$5.50; Non-res., family, \$7.50; Non-res., 3-day, \$1.25; Non-res., 3-day, family, \$2.25.

NEW BRUNSWICK			
Salmon	30/wk.		May 24-Sept. 30†
Landlocked salmon	—		Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Rainbow trout	—		Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Striped bass	12"		No closed season
Black bass	9"		Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Trout	20/day		Apr. 1-Sept. 30†
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1.25; Non-res., \$16; Non-res., 7-day, \$5.50.			

NEW FOUNDLAND			
Salmon	12"	8	May 15-Sept. 1
Sea trout	8"	24	May 15-Sept. 1
Rainbow trout	8"	36	June 1-Nov. 30
Osmaniche	8"	36	Jan. 15-Sept. 1†
Other trout	8"	36	Jan. 15-Sept. 1†
LICENSE FEES: Res. salmon, \$2; Non-res. salmon, \$25; Non-res. 14-day, \$10; Non-res. 1-day, \$2.			

NOVA SCOTIA			
Salmon (flies only)	.3 lbs.	5†	Apr. 1-Aug. 31†
Trout	6"	20 or 10	Apr. 15-Sept. 15
Gray trout	15"	3	Apr. 1-Sept. 15
Bass	18"	30 or 20	Apr. 1-Sept. 15†
Landlocked salmon	15"	10	Apr. 1-Sept. 18
LICENSE FEES: Non-res., \$5.			

ONTARIO			
bass	10"	6	July 1-Oct. 15†
Muskelunge	30"	12 daily	12 season June 20-Oct. 1
Lake trout	—		No closed season†
Yellow pickerel	13"	6	Nov. 15-Dec. 31†
Pike	—		No, no closed season†
Trout	7"	20 or 10†	May 1-Sept. 15
Crappies	20"		No closed season
Perch	25"		No closed season
Other panfish	—		No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Non-res., \$5.50; Family, \$8.			

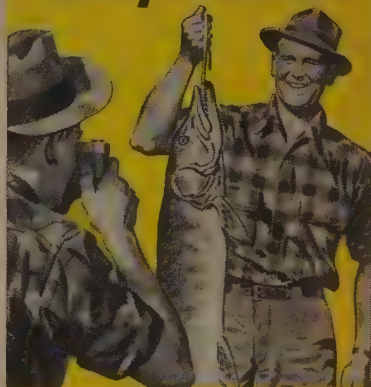
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND			
Salmon	3 lbs.	5	May 24-Oct. 15
Trout	6"	20 or 10	Apr. 16-Sept. 15
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Non-res., \$2.			

QUEBEC			
Atlantic salmon	.3 lbs.	—	May 1-Aug. 31
Landlocked salmon	15"	5 or 40	May 1-Sept. 30
Trout	12"	10 or 15	May 1-Sept. 30
Trout, brown	10"	10 or 15	Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Trout, rainbow	10"	5 or 15	Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Trout, speckled or sea	7"	40 or 15	Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Trout, Quebec red	15"	10 or 15	Apr. 1-Sept. 30
Bass†	9"	10 or 15	June 16-Oct. 15†
Walleyed pike	10"	10 or 15	May 16-Nov. 15
Muskelunge	24"	30 or 30	June 16-Oct. 15
Northern pike	17"	30 lbs.	No closed season
LICENSE FEES: Res., (lakes and salmon rivers), \$1; Non-res., (Atlantic salmon and other fish), \$15; 3-day, \$5; Non-res., (other fish) \$5.			

SASKATCHEWAN			
Pike, pickerel	12"	12	May 16-Mar. 31
Trout	9"	15	May 16-Sept. 15
Grayling	10"	10	June 16-Oct. 31
Lake trout	15"	10	May 16-Sept. 15
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$2; Non-res., \$6.			

YUKON TERRITORY			
Lake trout	—		Dec. 1-Sept. 15
Pickereel, pike, musky	—		May 15-Apr. 15
Brook trout	8"	120	Apr. 1-Oct. 31
Trout	8"	1 (age.)	Apr. 1-Oct. 31
LICENSE FEES: Res., \$1; Non-res., \$2.			

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HONOR BUILT FOR OVER 50 YEARS



Light tackle—big fish. The author hand-tailing a 15-lb. salmon taken with a 2½-oz. rod and 12-ft. leader testing 3½ lbs. Playing time: 10 mins.

Here's an arresting thought: The lighter your rod and finer your leader, the less chance you give the fish!

By LEE WULF

With the author's photo

Who's Giving the Fish a Break?

THOSE sunfish probably seemed as big and important to the kid as a thirty-pound salmon would have looked to me. He sat hunched down at the end of the little pier where the boats were tied up, and his eyes were glued to the red and white float that drifted just beneath the tip of his slender bamboo pole. Three times I'd watched him yank the whole rig out of water with a whoop and each time there had been no fish on the hook.

Moving quietly out on the rough, worn boards, I looked over his shoulder and saw three or four fat sunfish cruising slowly around his worm. After a bit one of them grabbed the hook crossways in his mouth, one end of the worm trailing out behind, and ran toward the deep water with a zip that pulled the float under. About the time the lad got organized to heave upward the sunny had dropped the hook and the whole rig made its customary skyward fling, empty hook, float and line sending spray over both of us.

The boy had plenty of angleworms in the can beside him. The rest was simple. I walked back to the car and picked out a few things I thought he needed. We talked and got to be pretty good friends. He had taken two sunfish before I left him and his smile and shouts were something to remember.

When I came by again a few days later he was playing around the boats but his pole was nowhere in sight. He'd quit fishing, he told me, because he couldn't get any more bites. His parents, he said, wouldn't allow him out in a boat alone and the shores of the lake nearby were so overgrown with bushes he couldn't get near the water. And there weren't any more fish around the pier. He had caught them all.

The rig I had given him had been too deadly. It had consisted of a hook disgorged, three or four No. 12 hooks, five or six yards of three-pound test spinning line to be used in two-foot lengths as leaders. When he put a lively worm on one of those small hooks attached to that fine, soft leader material, the first thing any hungry sunfish felt was a hook stab deep in his gullet and a queer sensation as he broke water on his way ashore via the air route.

I suppose that lad might have fished all season off that pier, having lots of bites, catching a fish now and then but never losing his main source of interest. I'd shown him how to catch them all and spoiled his fishing. *His first rig was really more sporting than mine.*

You've probably heard anglers brag about using very light leaders in order to "give the fish a break." And they

honestly feel they are practicing good sportsmanship when they go down to 2X or 4X or even 6X during low water conditions. But instead of offering the fish a more sporting chance to escape, they are actually taking another advantage for themselves. Their error lies in thinking that playing a fish is the all-important part of fishing, and that only in that department does the fish deserve a sporting chance. They overlook the fact that by using finer leaders they can hook more fish and, consequently, land more of them. Handling a fish safely on light leaders is truly a measure of ability, but the additional opportunity for escape it offers the fish is more than made up by its greater deadliness.

Anyone with normal intelligence and reflexes can learn to play a fish well. My eleven-year-old son landed better than half the Atlantic salmon and grilse he hooked last summer in Newfoundland using my 2½-ounce rod and leaders ranging from .013 down to 1X. My younger son, at eight, hooked a few salmon himself and landed most of them with no help other than my coaching. The point is, both youngsters proved that they could handle the toughest fish that swims, and on delicate tackle. Even with inexperienced kids using light leaders, the fish haven't got too much of a chance.

At this point, I should admit that under some conditions real skill is required in playing heavy fish on fine tip-ets. Water containing many snags and rocks can make the handling of a fish become a problem requiring great judgment and skill. But on the average, skill with a light leader requires only a little practice and its use is not a break but a handicap for the fish.

The purpose of this article isn't to urge everyone to stop using fine leaders and go back to heavy ones. It is an effort to bring the importance of fine leaders and their true sporting value under the spotlight. Personally, I use fine leaders, light lines and featherweight rods. I do so because I enjoy fishing "light," but an almost equally important reason is that I've found I can hook more fish that way. My fish may have a somewhat better chance of breaking free when I use fine leaders, but they have much less chance of surviving my fishing unless I choose to release them after capture.

My old friend, Al Prindle, the erstwhile postmaster of Shushan, gives the trout in the Battenkill, which we both fish, a better sporting chance than I do. He likes to strike them hard and I can always tell how many rises he's had if I say within two hundred yards of him. Every time he feels a touch he yells "Hiya!" and tries his best to throw the fish back over his shoulder. Every once in a while he loses a trout in the grass,

but it is pure libel to say that he has lost more fish in the meadows than in the stream. He breaks more of his 1X leaders than I do of the 4X and 5X tip-ets which I use. His hooks have cut through the jaws of a lot more trout than I've left flies in. He's hard on tackle as well as rough with the fish. But because he knows where to put his Leadwing Coachman and how to work it when he gets it there, he catches a respectable number of trout.

Al has made a set of pretty stiff rules for himself. When he takes his fly rod in hand the chances are the trout will have to take a No. 10 Leadwing Coachman on a 1X leader in order to qualify for his creel. That's handicap enough to skunk the average angler. If you're looking for a real sporting proposition, just go out and see what you can do with a rig like that on a gin-clear stream like the Battenkill, Neversink or East Branch of the Ausable.

Now for a close look at this "light, sporting" tackle and a better judgment of what sort of a break it is for the fish.

There may be some circumstances in which anglers use 4X filaments when a heavy bass leader would do just as well, but such instances are rare. The only time most anglers purposely give the fish a break is when they're so easy to catch the fishermen can afford to experiment and don't give a darn whether they land any fish or not. The usual story that goes

with the use of fine filaments is: "We don't land as many fish as we would if we played them on heavier leaders, but we hook a lot more." And then in the interest of truth they should add: "If we didn't fish fine we might not hook any at all."

The rest of the tackle that goes with fine leaders is also generally considered advantageous to the fish. Take the line, for example. A fly line is a bulky thing. The heavier the line, the more splash and commotion it makes when it strikes the water or moves through it and, consequently, the more likely it is to alarm the fish. The finer, less visible line that goes with long fine leaders and light rods is less likely to frighten the fish, more likely to deceive them into striking

(Continued on page 48)

At ten, Allan licked this 12-pounder with light gear in exactly 16 minutes



The author's son Allan was only nine years old when he hooked, played and landed this 5-lb. grilse with a 3½-oz. rod and leader tapered down to .010 (test, 3 lbs.)



The Kid CONNECTS



Dave playing his first bass. His technique was crude but effective

*It was his first real, grown-up trip, and he wanted
very much to make good as his Dad's fishin' partner*

IF IT hadn't been for Dutch we'd probably have given up hours before—even if Dutch and Orville had driven all night, coming down from central California. Dave and I had come up from Phoenix. All that traveling just for a day's bass fishing together on Lake Havasu. We'd been at it since daylight. But the bass weren't having any.

It hadn't been our fault. We'd thrown everything in the boat at 'em, including a few choice words. These had been muttered under our breath, of course, because Dave has sensitive ears and a mimicking tongue as well. I know, he's my boy—and he's only eight.

I'd brought him along because I figured one trip with Dutch would really expose him to the right kind of fever-fishing fever. But we'd already plugged the shoreline from George Savard's boat landing half way around the sixty-mile long lake formed by the impounded Colorado River between California and Arizona. At least, it seemed to me that I had rowed half way around. Dutch and Orville had plugged the shoreline faithfully, never missing a rocky point, pocket, cove, or submerged tree top. They'd tossed everything, and into all the right places, without interesting a customer.

The steady slap-slap-slap of the waves and the rhythmic whirring of the reels was beginning to wear us down. Dutch had even shut off that incessant whistle of his. Orville hadn't said a word for over an hour.

We hadn't even snagged bottom.

Dave remained the only optimist. We had all worked on him to keep his spirits

up, since this was his first real, stag, grown-up trip. Our earlier display of enthusiasm for bass fishing was now forced, in an effort to keep his mind off the fact we hadn't eaten since about five that morning.

"Phooooie!" sighed Dutch. I began thinking of that 200 miles to Phoenix which I could still make before dark. Too bad, because collectively we had driven more than a thousand miles for this one day of fishing.

It was Orville who bridged that dark moment of despair. "Dave," he said quietly, "I'll give you a dollar if you catch the first bass."

"I'll match it," said Dutch, rising to the occasion like the good sportsman he is.

That little byplay picked us up, but I couldn't resist observing that California money seemed comparatively safe that day. It was then past noon.

But Dave, whose allowance never quite lasts out the week, snapped up the offer. Then he turned to me and complained for the first time.

"Papa (that's what he calls me!), you don't row fast enough. My plug won't go underwater."

Up to that time he'd been happy to troll his plug behind the boat, pump his rod now and then to send his plug under water and occasionally ask what else he could do to attract a bass.

Now he wanted action!

"Let's troll awhile. I'd like to snooze," suggested Dutch mendaciously.

That was a big concession for Dutch to make. I knew how well he loved to

lay those plugs in there, right off the shoreline, among the rocks and bryopiles.

Dave's enthusiasm was at fever pitch again. "I want to use that new plug, Papa—that green one with the black spots. The man said it was the best one."

Always an indulgent father, I got one of the deep-running plugs George Savard at River Lodge had sold me, hooked it onto Dave's line.

"Now start the motor and let's go over there," Dave pointed to a rocky island that poked its head out of the lake bay formed by the Bill Williams River flowing into the lake. "That's the island the man told us about. That's where said we might catch some."

I'm not usually superstitious about fishing, and neither is Dutch, really, though he puts on a big show of spitting on the plug, reciting verses in an indistinct Pennsylvania Dutch dialect and mumbling prayers to Allah. But sometimes I wonder if omens might mean something, at that.

Dave had his plug out, the green one with black spots that was supposed to be the only plug the Havasu bass wanted according to George.

We crossed a point with the motor half open. I told Dave to lift the tip of his rod to get the trailing plug over the reef and I eased the throttle back to trolling speed.

Then it happened.

Dave let out a yell and curled over his reel, almost hugging it with both arms as it sang the high tune of a speckling fish.



The battle won, Dave used his thumb-and-finger method to land his fish

By

CHARLES C. NIEHUIS

I killed the motor and started up to help him, but a firm hand caught my shoulder and pressed me down into the seat.

"How dumb can you get?" barked Dutch in my ear. "Let him land that fish!"

Braided silk line was streaking out through the guides. My good line! But I relaxed under Dutch's firm hand and Dutch took over, shouting advice to Dave in his thick sauerkraut-and-weiner dialect.

"Speak English, so he can understand you," I said.

That big, friendly goon only chuckled as Dave slowly but surely brought his bass under control.

Dave never gave him an inch of slack. He hooked the butt under his left arm for leverage and poured on the pressure. But the bass had a mind of his own. He headed for deeper parts. The reel handle twisted out of Dave's fingers and rapped him sharply across the knuckles. I saw his lip quiver, but he only jammed his thumb on the spinning rbor. Dutch looked up at me and winked.

The fish ran again, and Dave had to let him go. In his excitement, he grabbed for the zipping line. It cut his hand. That taught him more than a thousand words of lecturing on the art of playing fish.

Finally the bass lay alongside, licked. Dave hoisted it over the gunwale and his face split wide open as he held it up proudly for us to see.

(Continued on page 29)



My second-born with the first bass he ever caught. I felt just as proud as he did



Orville and Dutch pay up. The kid hit the jackpot and changed our luck for the day

Paid off In Pigeons



By TOM BURRIER

Illustrated by Jack Murray

WANTED: Three pea harvest hands, experience unnecessary; top wages, food. Workers privileged to hunt my 420 acres when season opens. Soundview Farm, north of Everett.

CARY finished reading the fine print in the candle's flicker: "There's our next job! No experience, good chow, and hunting privileges!"

"Experience!" Jerry groaned from his sleeping bag. "The only thing I *can't* do after this trip is paint neckties! Boysenberry thorns still workin' from my fingertips, an' you wanta pick peas!"

"But hunting privileges," Cary protested. "Bandtail pigeons *live* on peas! Besides, we're due home in a month. What can we lose?"

"My fingernails," Jerry mumbled, and promptly started snoring.

We'd lived off the land that summer; heartlessly argued our families into family reunions with their families, and moved out like Alaska's Tanana River ice.

We'd become what government bulletins call "itinerant workers," following the crops. Our camp was a late '27 sedan, filled with work clothes, rods, guns and equipment. Small town newspaper classifieds provided us job openings.

We'd cut lettuce in the Imperial Valley, and dammed rice fields around Sacramento, fishing for striped bass in our spare time. We'd panned gold in the Sierras, where our main diet was Truckee River rainbows, with a few big-mouth bass from the sluggish American for variety.

Oregon's Klamath area was a fisherman's paradise. Trout streams two miles from town, and stories of four-pound

trout; virgin forest, much as it was when Sacajawea led Lewis and Clark over the Continental Divide. We thought we were a thousand miles from civilization—until a yarding donkey's scream announced a nearby logging camp.

"We need some bull cooks. You guys wanta try it?"

Conference. Sixteen hours a day . . . seven days a week . . . "Nope."

Across the Columbia to southern Washington and the hop fields then, and some fine lake fishing. Now jobless again.

"Think Jerry'll go for this pea and pigeon ad?" I asked Cary.

"Sure. Especially the pigeon part. It's only a hundred miles to Puget Sound. Let's hit the sack and get an early start."

Soundview Farm sprawled along a high bluff overlooking the Saratoga Passage, an arm of Puget Sound. We met Oscar Harris, Soundview's owner, in the shimmering farmyard heat. He wasted no time in formalities.

"You boys looking for work?"

"Well, uh—"

"Fine! You're hired!"

"But we're inexperienced, and maybe—well, honestly, the hunting angle got us. We don't know—"

"You'll learn," he promised. "And you'll get plenty pigeon shootin' later if you're able—if you're still around. Two of you for loaders, and the shed needs a packer."

That night we knew why Harris had said "if you're able."

"More liniment on my left shoulder," Cary growled.

"Wait'll I get my arm back in its socket," Jerry growled. "You an' your pea ads! An' not a pigeon anywhere. I think the whole thing's a cooked-up deal to draw slave labor!"

But by the fifth day our blisters healed, and we almost earned our wages. By late August the peas were in, we were paid off—and still hadn't seen a pigeon. Pheasants in abundance, coveys of Huns, but no bandtails. We were fidgety, and a little doubtful.

"Don't you worry, they'll be in," Oscar reassured us. "Come early first mornin', in time for breakfast. I think I can show you some shootin' you won't forget. Bring plenty of shells, though, and I'd make 'em sixes or bigger; these western bandtails are tough."

We spent the next three days resting and catching yellow perch from nearby lakes. By four o'clock of opening morning we'd rolled Jerry from his sleeping bag, and the sedan was pushing 30 miles-per in the direction of Soundview Farm.

"Best breakfast since I retired from pea vinin'," Jerry grinned at Mrs. Harris. "Even if there isn't a pigeon on the place, that meal's worth comin' back for."

Oscar glowered. "Let's get set while the birds are still havin' their breakfasts," he suggested, and we followed him through the door.

Stars twinkled mistily in the dawn overcast, and a faint breeze was musky with the smell of molding pea vines. Cary had been fidgeting since our arrival, and could hold his question no longer:

"Any birds in?"

"Oh, a few circled 'round yesterday after it quit rainin'," Oscar answered carelessly. "Not many, though; usually fifteen or twenty big flocks feedin' soon as a rain softens the peas. Could be one of those lean years, when—"

"Alibis already," Jerry muttered.

**The ad said you got a bandtail
shoot if you worked hard picking
peas. And by golly, you did!**

We walked through a gate into short wheat stubble. To the left were pea fields; to the right a blurred thicket of brush and tall fir snags brooded along the sea bluff. The ocean breeze had stiffened, and we could hear the sullen smash of Pacific breakers somewhere off in the gloom. Following Oscar along an obscure path, we reached a small clearing near a tall fir snag.

"Two of you stay here," Oscar whispered. "Watch the pea field, but keep a sharp eye on the ocean after sunrise; that's where the bandies'll come from. You can't don't forget to lead—oh hell! If you haven't learned to shoot by now, you never will!"

Cary disappeared through the brush behind Oscar's broad frame.

I fed chilled fives into the big end of the thirty-inch barrels. It was still a few minutes till opening, and we shivered as the damp sea wind swept in over the bluff. A hundred yards down the line we could see Cary and Oscar establishing themselves near a triangle of gaunt snags. A quarter-mile across the pea field an occasional movement placed other Harris workers moving into position. Jerry eyed the sweep-second hand of his watch:

"Season's open! Bring on the pigeons—if any!"

The answer was a muffled *thud*! A dozen others followed, and we peered eagerly from the thorny blind.

"Maybe I was wrong," Jerry whispered. "Look at that!"

From the center of the field lifted a livery cloud—bandtails! They circled lightly, then fled directly up the distant fence line. The flock disappeared in the murk, gaining altitude with every strong wing beat.

(Continued on page 40)



Kennebago Magic

By BURTON L. SPILL

NOT YET," Everett said. "A little farther in. There's a spring hole right where that old log lies along the shore."

I gave another pull at the oars and swung the boat parallel to the log and about forty feet from it. "Hold it," Everett said. He eased the anchor down and picked up his flyrod. Shipping the oars, I waited, for this was something I had driven nearly two hundred miles to see.

The scene was Kennebago Stream, between the lake outlet and the powerhouse dam. The time was late July and the weather was completely out of control. For a week the thermometer had hovered around ninety degrees—much too hot for good trout fishing, I thought. But Everett didn't agree. In the Kennebago country, he said, trout could be taken all through the summer by any man who knew the waters. So there I was, fishing with him and waiting for him to prove his statement.

I did not have long to wait. He drove a cast in toward the sunken log. For a moment the fly bobbed lightly in its own ripple, then disappeared abruptly as the waters parted beneath it. Everett struck sharply and the water boiled as he drove the hook home. He worked the trout in, reached down and released the barbless hook, dried the fly and flicked it out once more. In that split second while it hovered over the water before settling to rest, a trout jumped cleanly, batted it down and took it in the showering spray of its own ascent.

"What are you waiting for?" Everett asked. "It's a glory hole. Go to it."

I needed no second invitation, and flicking a fly up to the log I was fast to a trout before he had released his second one.

For a half hour we caught trout as fast as we could play them in and release them. Then as the first thrill began to fade, I reeled in my line and stood the rod up in the bow of the boat.

"Shake hands," Everett said, as he brought his own line in. "You're my kind of folks. Now let's you and me go and work for some."

WE ROWED back into the main lake.

Nature worked with a lavish hand when she distributed the lakes in Maine. Of those I have seen, I have found none fairer than Kennebago. Nestling in the shadow of the motherly mountains which stand guard above it, it is rimmed by forests which stretch to infinity. There are moments in such places when man realizes how unimportant he is in the scheme of things. I thought of that as I watched the changing panorama of the hills, and then I realized that Everett had lowered the anchor overboard.

"If I remember my bearings correctly," he said, "we should be in the vicinity of another spring here in the lake. I've taken good trout here in summers as hot as this."

I believed him, but still I could not feel hopeful. It was flat calm and it was hot. Nothing in my previous experience led me to believe we would take trout there in the open waters of the lake. Still, I was there to prove or disprove it, so I laid a fly out on the water, moving it a trifle from time to time to give it a semblance of life.

THERE is nothing very startling about a rise in moving water, but when the glassy surface which supported my fly erupted I jumped involuntarily. It was lucky I did though, for the action drove the hook home into something which had a satisfactory weight behind it. I like to tie into a good fish in open water. Strong-arm tactics are not needed. You just put a gentle arc in the bamboo, keep it there and watch it wear the fighter down. It is surprising how quickly it will do it.

The trout took line in a strong rush, then quartered back and forth, finning strongly against the pressure of the rod as he tried to put distance and depth between us. But the demands of the bamboo were inexorable and I began to take in line. A few minutes later Everett slid the net under the fish and lifted it clear.

It was a beautiful trout, a full fifteen inches in length, with the depth and coloration they seem to attain only by natural reproduction in mountain lakes and streams. Until then we had released

every fish but it was nearing dinner and I was hungry.

"Beautiful fish," Everett said.

"Yeah," I agreed. "It would mighty nice in a frying pan."

"Browned on both sides," he said, rapped the fish smartly over the head with his knife handle.

We rowed ashore, and pressed the trout—browned on both sides—placed on the table before us.

It was three o'clock in the afternoon when we once more dropped anchor at the spot we had recently vacated. The air was like an oven, and it was at the period of the day which I have always considered to be the least productive yet Everett began tying on a fly in a matter-of-fact way that every workman displays at his trade. There seemed to be no doubt in his mind about taking trout, so I wiped the sweat from my eyes and tied on another.

Carefully we covered all the water we could reach, but without any luck. Then as I tried a long cast directly toward the distant shore a trout swirled for it and missed. "That's the place," Everett said, and raising the anchor he paddled the boat a few yards nearer the spot. Then dropping a fly where the trout had missed, he nailed one almost before his line



The author on Kennebago Lake, with trout rising to dry flies on almost every

**And "magic" is the only
word to describe it,
with trout rising madly
to floaters during a
sizzling July heat wave**

had straightened. A good fish, too, and nicely played, but it must have been lightly hooked, for a moment later he lost it.

A minute later I played one with exactly the same result. Five minutes later I tied into another one, and that one was firmly hooked. It was a good trout, and I hesitated a moment before releasing it. I do not kill many trout, but I have learned that the angler who always comes home with an empty creel soon loses face in his own household.

"I'd like this one and another just like it to take home," I said, and eased the net under the fish.

Everett's rod snapped upward. "We

endeavor to fill all orders promptly," he said, and a minute later he boated a twin to mine.

I have fished for a good many years, on both sides of the border, but I mark that midsummer day as one of the pleasantest of my life. I was soaked with perspiration. I felt grimy and smelled abominably of fish, but I was happy. The trout ran larger than those in the river and they showed a preference to certain patterns. At times there were long minutes between rises, and then we would take two or three in quick succession. It was the kind of fishing which makes the inactive periods as exciting as the active ones.

Then, as the copper disc of the sun slid down to touch the rim of the mountain, Everett eased his rod under the seat and lifted the anchor. I was keenly disappointed, for while the fishing had been good enough to satisfy even the most enthusiastic angler I knew that, theoretically at least, it should be even better as twilight began to fall. But I was a guest and I couldn't suggest that we stay longer. I sighed regretfully and reeled in my line.

Then I noticed that instead of heading back toward camp Everett had swung the boat around and was pulling toward the eastern shore.

"It may not work out," he said, "but a cold-water brook comes in over here. Occasionally I have taken good trout at

its mouth. Would you like to try it?"

"I've got to catch the mail boat in the morning," I said, "but the intervening time is yours."

He chuckled, and bent to the oars.

A faint suspicion of dusk was stealing across the sky as we neared the shore. Little wisps of vapor began to rise from the lake, and my sodden shirt felt suddenly cool. We slid in closer to shore and then, just as I caught the faint murmur of running water, Everett eased the anchor down and picked up his rod.

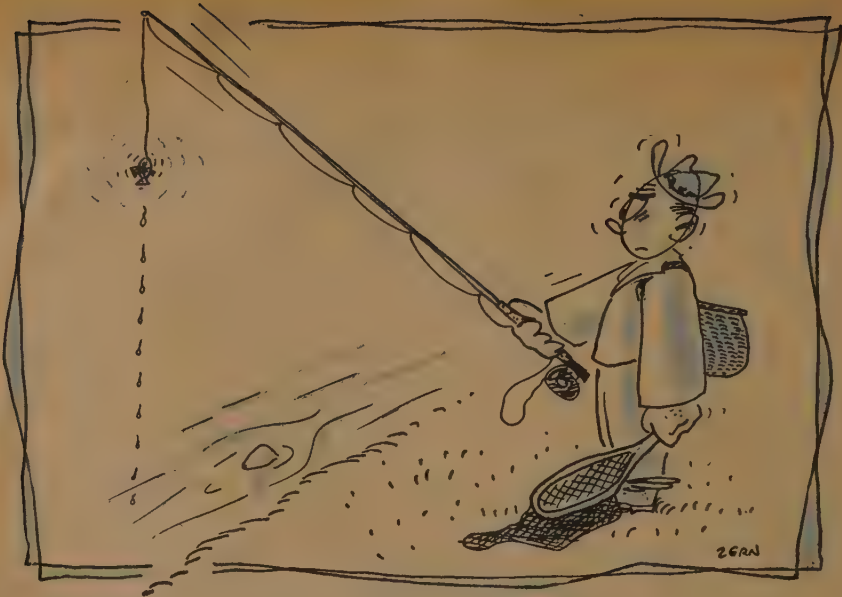
It may have been the witchery of the closing night, or it may have been that I had acquired a new respect for the judgment of this man who knew the lake as I knew my trousers' pockets, but all at once I could feel the quickened beating of my heart, and the tenseness which comes when one hears a breaking branch while sitting on a game trail. Taking up my rod, I went into action.

I had covered nearly half of the water I could reach when it happened. I was retrieving the floating fly slowly, a few inches at a time, when a fish rose behind it in a slow, lazy roll. I was keyed for it, but even then I almost struck too soon, for the rise was as leisurely as a salmon's. Then, in that age-long instant which I forced myself to wait, he took it and I drove the hook home.

In open water and with reasonably strong tackle, I have found that I can
(Continued on page 30)

Kennebago Stream, at the head of the famous Canoe Pool. A lot of big trout have come out of this water





The author snatches a Beaverkill tiddler

Tench, Tiddlers and Peebles

Anybody wanna buy a canal? Or snatch a tiddler?

Or tally a ho? Or dry a fly? Zern tells how!

By ED ZERN

SOME interesting things have been turning up in my mail lately. Or fairly interesting.

For instance, Mr. J. A. Knight, the Solunar Solon of Williamsport, Penna., has sent me a badger neck which I was very happy to get. Good badger hackle is the basis of a trout fly I invented several years ago, and for which a name has never been settled on. One group of my acquaintances insists on calling it the Zern's Dispensable; another group prefers to call it the Resistible; still another and far larger group merely snickers at it. This latter group includes most trout.

* * *

Mr. Bill Bueno, a former employee of the New York State Conservation Department and presently engaged in the publishing business, has sent me a copy of Henry Williamson's *Tarka The Otter*, with a note suggesting it would be nice if I could say something constructive about the book in this space, so that everybody would go out and buy a copy.

I don't mind saying that in my opinion, *Tarka* is one of the best books ever written about otters—but I hope that if any of you readers are going to splurge on a book, you buy one of mine. I make several cents on each copy, and brother, don't think I can't use it. Furthermore, none of the characters in my books say "Tally ho," which is more than Mr. Williamson, the otter-author, can say for his.

* * *

Mr. Maryin Chase, one of my fellow officers of the Beaverkill, Schoharie, Willowemoc and Esopus Smallmouth Bass, Walleyed Pike, Fallfish, Redfin, Mudpuppy, Snapping Turtle, Eel & Chub Club, has sent me a number of back issues of *The Fishing Gazette*, an English weekly to which he is a subscriber. While these issues are several months old, much of the editorial matter is timeless in its obscurity.

For example, in one issue there is an article titled "Problems of Scottish Rivers," from which I quote the following:

Mr. Pryde, Labour Member for Midlothian and Peebles (Southern), had asked him if he would review the legislation governing salmon fishing in the River Tweed with a view to removing some of the anomalies which at present exist.

Frankly, I find this confusing. I presume that an anomaly is some sort of coarse fish which occurs in the River Tweed and louses up the salmon fishing so that it has to be removed by seining like carp from a bass pond. But what heaven's name is a Peeble? What is Southern Peeble?

And on the next page, a longish article leads off with this sentence: "Whoever buys the Basingstoke Canal, the entire thirty-three miles of which are to be sold this year, will acquire a fine head of tench." Possibly this is a typographical error, and the writer meant "trench." Any rate, whoever buys a thirty-three mile canal is certainly entitled to a fine

(Continued on page 29)

NEW BOOKS

BLACK BASS, by John Alden Knight
G. P. Putnam's Sons, N. Y. \$4)

Jack Knight's name on a fishing book is an automatic guarantee that fishermen will like it. And *Black Bass* rates as one of Knight's best.

Although he is more widely known as a trout fisherman and originator of the Lunar Theory, Knight is also an enthusiastic and skilful bass fisherman, with years of experience in fishing for both largemouths and smallmouths from Florida north to Vermont and Canada. His advice is worth heeding. He has packed a world of useful information in *Black Bass* and any fisherman, however experienced, can use it with profit.

Generously illustrated with photos and three color plates of bass lures painted by Dr. Edgar Burke.

THE SHOTGUNNER, by Bob Nichols
G. P. Putnam's Sons, N. Y. \$5)

Bob Nichols, for several years shooting editor for *Field & Stream* magazine, needs no introduction to the sporting fraternity—nor does his book need any recommendation, for Bob Nichols knows his stuff. Furthermore, he knows how to write about it.

In this book the author writes at length on wingshooting with the scattergun. Brightening his discourse with narrative, he discusses guns and loads, the matter of judging the proper amount of ad, recoil, gun-fit, the gunner's hands, feet and eyes, and a thousand other subjects of sure interest to anyone who handles a shotgun.

Eleven chapters, 373 pages, with contents piece.

SECRETS OF STREAMER FLY FISHING, by Gene Letourneau (Letourneau-Nichols, Waterville, Me. \$1)

For the thousands of anglers who fish New England waters for landlocked salmon, trout and togue (lake trout), here is the gospel from a writer with years of experience behind him. In his booklet he reveals the secrets that have made him a "top rod" in Maine waters year after year: the flies he uses and, more important, how he fishes them. The information he passes along is almost certain to help the reader to find better sport wherever he fishes with flies, whether in Maine or for any species in any state.

Illustrated with color plates and line drawings by Bob Nichols.

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YOUNGER GENERATION ANGLERS

By **LEE WULFF**, FISHING EDITOR

*The right start is
highly important to a young fisherman*

BEING a father of two boys, now eight and eleven, respectively, I can undertake to pass on some observations and experiences in teaching them to fish and instilling in them an interest in the sport. It is impossible to tell at this moment whether or not their interest in fishing will be permanent but there is no doubt that as of this writing the enthusiasm of both boys is keen and active.

At the age of three each boy was taken fishing. The elder lad was provided with a fly rod, reel, line, leaders and hooks or flies to start out with. I soon realized that this was an error and, although he caught a few fish, he needed considerable help in playing them because the tackle was complicated and difficult to use. He couldn't cast without getting into a mess because casting, even with a short line, was too much for him. So I retrieved the light fly casting outfit before it was damaged and set it away for his later use, providing instead a long cane pole and line with hooks, floats, short leaders and flies.

This worked better for it was simple to manage and if a line or leader became irretrievably tangled he was able to replace it with a new one from a number of spares I had given him. This tackle was inexpensive and by giving him spares I cut down the frustration he would normally have had when his tackle failed to "work" (and saved myself a lot of untangling as well). Youngsters go out to catch fish, have action and excitement, not to watch their fathers having the fun and doing things that are beyond them. I believe that too much tedious effort without some exciting reward as a direct result will dull their interest and make fishing seem more like work than play.

My own interest was largely in trout and bass fishing but I took the youngsters to small ponds where I knew they could catch panfish. I tried to give them the minimum amount of supervision and let them develop the greatest independence in their fishing. When they were in a good place, equipped with sufficient tackle and bait I went off a ways and fished. When I heard a shout for help

I returned to give it but each time admonished them that it was up to them to look out for themselves and not spoil my fishing.

Whenever action was so slow that they quit fishing I'd try to teach them something new or, if that failed, take them home so that they didn't associate being bored and inactive with the sport. When worms wouldn't work I'd look around for a sunfish nest and show them

how to skim a fly over it using their own poles and the flies I'd given them. We caught grasshoppers, crickets, grubs and other insects to try to tempt wary fish. I never sat in the car and read or slept, working on the theory that if the fishing was too boring for me it was too boring for them, too. When fishing was poor we looked for turtles and frogs and birds and similar wildlife to be caught or studied around the pond.



Allan Wulff received this introduction to an angling career at the age of three

After the first few times I never took them fishing unless they asked to go. I think a child may tend to resent the things he *has* to do and that he'll have more interest in doing things he *wants* to do when he wants to do them and not necessarily when it has been planned for him. That doesn't mean that I dropped everything to take the boys fishing whenever they asked to be taken but that I let them have a little less fishing than they wanted rather than a little more. Many a time I left them home when I'd have loved to take them along as company.

At the age of seven I gave my elder son his fly casting outfit again and put an old plug casting outfit at his disposal. By that time he had managed to develop a real skill with the cane pole and casting the fly rod came naturally. He was also deft enough with his fingers to make up a few flies that were effective on sunfish. At the beginning of that season his fishing was mostly for panfish. He caught his first trout in the pool in front of the house on a worm on the casting rod during the highwater of that spring while I was in the house working. He was so excited he rushed up from the river and into the house with the fish flopping from the tip of the rod. (It was legal.) When the river settled into dry fly conditions he caught a few trout on the floaters and was bitten hard by the dry fly bug. That year, too, he was able to cast well enough to catch a few bass and northern pike, rowing the boat and taking his turn at casting.

ON THE opening day of the trout season in his eighth year the rivers were low and fly fishing conditions were good. We hit the stream right after breakfast in company with two veteran fly fishermen. Upon our arrival at the stream I waded across it, carrying him picky-back in order to put him on a long shelving beach where he could wade out far enough for a decent back cast. Before I got back to my side of the Battenkill to start fishing Allan had caught the first trout for our group on a streamer fly he'd tied himself.

In his ninth year he continued to improve and in his tenth he was old enough and responsible enough to go along on some of my flying trips into the bush. As a result he caught, unaided, a five-pound eastern brook trout on a dry fly and about 20 Atlantic salmon and grilse, achieving early in his youth something many veteran anglers never manage to attain.

My younger son, Barry, now going into his ninth year, has shown a similar development and interest in fishing. Last season he hooked, played and beached some fair trout and a few Atlantic salmon with considerable coaching. When the first salmon he hooked jumped clear of the water alongside the dory it shocked him so much that he started to

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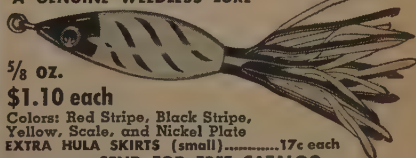
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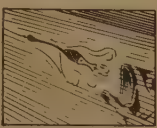
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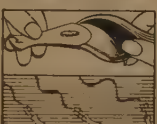
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cry. Even so he remembered his earlier teachings and didn't freeze up on the line. When the fish had run himself out he was talked into "playing him just as if he were a little trout"... and eventually brought the fish in.

Both lads are away at school now and most of their fishing is limited to vacations. They have to plan and work for their fishing trips except for the Battenkill which flows by the house. I used to help them dig worms when they were small and taught them how to catch nightwalkers, waking them up in the middle of the night when conditions were right but as soon as they were able to do things for themselves I let them carry as much of the work that goes with fishing as they could. I made them want to fish every time they went fishing. They're normal youngsters and fishing is only one of the many sports they find interest in but I believe it may serve them as relaxation when all the others have faded and will make their lives better from beginning to end.

The results of this system have been very gratifying and, I believe, will work with most youngsters. Let them fish where they'll catch something. Never make them go fishing. Give them as much responsibility as they can carry. (If you do all the worm digging and rowing in the beginning they may think fishing isn't worth the candle when all of a sudden, they have to do it themselves.) As a final suggestion let them clean their own fish. Barry and Allan clean their own fish and sometimes mine, too. I'm old fashioned enough to think that since they're going to have to pay for their pleasures when they grow up they might just as well start carrying some of their own freight while they're kids.

Walleyes on Top

DURING the early summer when the waters warm up, the walleyes will come to the top for floating lures at night and add that extra touch of excitement that always goes with a surface strike. Bass bugs and surface plugs will work just about as well as streamer flies and casting lures that run just beneath the surface whenever the water to be fished is reasonably calm. There's a special thrill to a surface strike in the darkness when the air is still. A strike that can be heard as well as felt is more exciting than a silent strike can hope to be. Walleyes can be caught on the surface in waters ranging from two to ten feet deep. The lure should be moved just about the way it is normally fished for bass with the accent on the slow side. White or red-and-white plugs seem to work best and the plugs should be on the small side. The water should be fished slowly and if one walleye is taken the surrounding area should be covered thoroughly before moving on.



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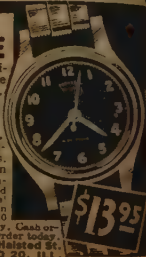
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During the daytime the walleye tends to feed deep and stay close to the bottom in typical perch fashion. A great many anglers fail to realize these fish are surface minded at night under the right conditions. This knowledge can help you catch fish. Suppose you know a weedy stretch of water with plenty of walleyes in it but with most catches being made on bait because the weeds, which come almost to the surface of the water, cover the area. Such a patch of water can't be fished with a normal casting lure and even with a weedless lure at normal walleye depth it is difficult, especially at night. But with a surface lure that clears the weedtops—the water can be fished thoroughly and effectively.

Small floating plugs with propellers or revolving sections work well and if a regular floating plug isn't handy a small diving plug can be used and fished so slowly that it travels on the surface or, at most, barely submerged and breaking the surface calm as it moves. A diving plug moved slowly and erratically will draw surface strikes that combine the sound and the fury of feeding walleyes.

Salmon and Automatic Reels

CAN Atlantic salmon be taken on an automatic reel? That question has been bruited around for a good many years and the answer is a very slightly qualified negative. When an Atlantic salmon has water enough to run in he's likely to do better than a hundred yards at a clip and that's too much for a spring winder. The reel, with a slip drag if it has one, will let the fish carry on without any trouble for that distance but when a salmon gets so far out and is traveling fast there should be no drag at all on the reel. It should have only the drag necessary to keep a free-turning spool from over-running. This is impossible with most automatics. A second factor is the need for taking in long stretches of line. The springs in the automatics will only bring in a small share of the line a salmon takes out in a single run which



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JUNE, 1949

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I HAD TAKEN MY SON FISHING



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A LUNKER OF A PIKE SHOT OUT OF THE WEEDS



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BIG FISH...
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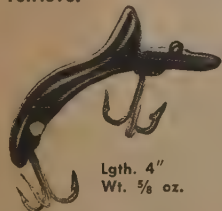
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means winding the spring while the fish is being played and winding a spring is not as simple as cranking a conventional reel. Automatics are handy for fishing the small streams and anywhere where the fish are not long distance champs but while a good angler, with luck, may handle a full grown Atlantic salmon on an automatic reel once in a while, as a practical proposition it isn't in the cards.

Fishing with Magnets

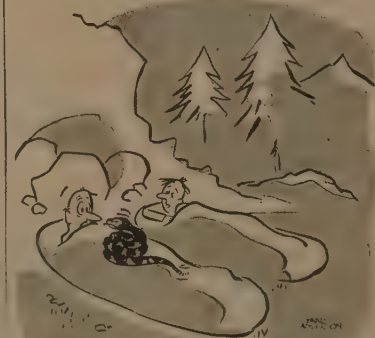
AMONG the newer items of interest to a salt water anglers is the Inductor Reel manufactured by Ocean City. The newsworthy feature of this reel is the fact that it offers a new anti-backlash device, a series of built-in magnets which prevent the spool from over-running.

These magnets are made of Alnico and the makers claim they will outlast the normal life of the reel. All you do is set an indicator gadget on the side to the desired magnetic tension, haul back and let drive. No thumbing till the lure hits the water.

Roil the Waters

EVERY angler should know that fish tend to be attracted to a disturbance in the water where there is nothing at hand to frighten them. As a youngster I used to catch and sell bait and one of the standard tricks for catching minnows was to stir up the mud at the edge of the lake and then wait for the minnows to come and investigate. Come they did, and consistently. The roily waters seemed to hold a great promise of food for them and with their appetites whetted and the cloudy water hiding the fine thread and hook and my own presence the results were far better than when fishing in clear water. The same interest in a disturbance that clouds the water exists in game fish, too, and can be used by the angler to his advantage.

In the smaller trout brooks muddying



"Don't move, Joe. Just go back to sleep and he'll go away."

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the stream is an old and effective trick. When the fish are listless and lying in under the banks or hidden in vegetation or snags they can often be brought out by dropping clods of earth above their positions so that the cloudy waters will move down past them. This dodge is more natural and especially effective in meadow streams where the banks occasionally cave in anyway. Such a cave-in may bring a few worms and grubs into the stream with it and will always interest the trout. It takes time for a fish to reassure himself that the cave-in or roiling of the water does not constitute a danger for him. He will be cautious but if he can see nothing suspicious he'll come out. The angler's job is to make himself inconspicuous and move as little and as slowly as possible in fishing the spots he has roiled.

Bass are caught surprisingly often at the old swimming hole or near a diving platform or beach just after the crowd of swimmers has left. The commotion made by the swimmers interests the bass and as soon as the actual disturbance is over they'll move in to see what's afoot. The wading around and swimming tends to stir up the bottom and expose some insect food as well as attracting minnows for the bass to feed on. A disturbance that frightens fish is bad *while it frightens them* but once the fright is over they'll be more alert and interested than before.

Playing a Pike

AT FIRST glance one might think that playing a pike is just like playing any other kind of fish but that's another one of the booby traps of fishing. Although general rules apply through the sport special rules come in to over-ride them all along the line. It is that way with the pike. His fight is a little different from that of most fish. Like his cousins the pickerel and musky he's a liar-in-wait and a grabber. He might be compared to a bass as one compares a cat to a dog or a mountain lion to a wolf.

A cat moves very swiftly when it wants to but it's no good on a long haul, whereas a dog, rarely as swift as a cat, in a close race can run for long distances and leave a cat far behind. The pike's method of catching his prey gives him little need for sustained speed and strength so he hasn't developed it. He lives by his darting swiftness and his teeth. Consequently he hasn't the stamina of a bass, pound for pound, and is generally considered a lesser game fish because of it. But he has his own method of fighting with a few tricks in it.

When hooked a pike will usually make a run. At the end of it, tired and momentarily exhausted, he'll come back fairly easily. Often he'll angle away by turning his long body obliquely to the line of pull but come in he will until he sees the boat or is frightened away by some

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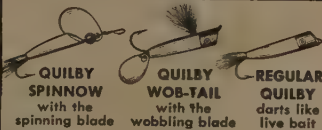
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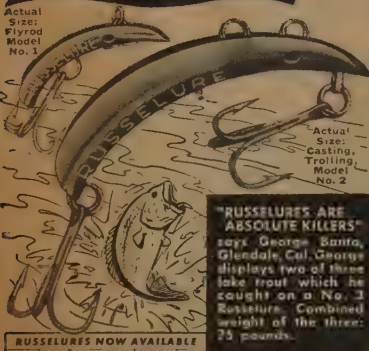
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movement or sound. Another run or two
of similar nature will develop and pass.
Finally he'll let you bring him alongside.
If he were a bass or trout and came in
so easily you could mark him down for
a well-whipped fish but, being a pike,
he's likely to lie motionless for a minute
alongside the boat and then suddenly
dart away with something resembling
his original speed.

In playing a pike look for sudden
bursts of speed rather than power and
long, dogged runs. Let him run himself
out unless the snag danger is too great.
Holding back hard may snap a line on a
pike that was due to stop suddenly of
his own accord within a few feet. He
needn't be played hard except close to
the boat at the end of the fight . . . and
then with considerable care.

Here's a tip that may be very helpful.
The upper jaws of all members of the
pike family are paper thin and a hook
will cut through them as easily as a
knife through burlap. As soon as you can
see your pike, start looking for the hook-
hold. If it's in the upper jaw play the fish
carefully and, if you can, keep turning
the rod so that the pull is toward the
fish's tail rather than ahead of him or out
to one side. Then, if the hook slides, it
will be sliding into better territory. The
lower jaw of the pike is solidly fleshed
and good holding ground.

Big Bluegills Lie Deep

A good many anglers are puzzled by
their inability to take the big blue-
gills they know are to be found in cer-
tain waters. This is primarily due to the
fact that they consistently fish top or
middle water and rarely, if ever, get
down to the bottom in the deeper sec-
tions of the ponds. The biggest of the
bluegills prefer to seek out the deep
water and stay there. To catch these fat
old timers it is necessary to get down to



"Oh, it's nothing, really"

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when, where, and how to get
blue-gills, sunnies, bream,
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with old timers, guides, fishermen all over the
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the bottom and the simplest way is to fish with bait.

The bait must be on or very near the bottom and yet be so attached to the line that the fish will be felt immediately if he takes the bait. Simplest rig is to have a small sinker at the very end of the line and the hook at the end of a short leader which is attached a little farther up the line than the leader length. Then, after the cast is made the line can be tightened up until there is a slight tension on the sinker. The moment a bluegill takes the bait the angler can feel it and set the hook. Any of the natural baits such as worms, small minnows, grasshoppers or dragonfly larvae can be used.

MIAMI CONTEST WINNERS

BIG FISH and lots of fishermen featured the Fourteenth Annual Metropolitan Miami Fishing Tournament, which closed on April 17 after 106 days of fast fishing.

Tarpon, as usual, provided most of the fireworks. G. N. Coughlan of Essex Fells, N. J., caught the largest on a plug—115 lbs.—and Frank Baxter of Miami, took the fly casting trophy with a 28-pounder. In the General Division, C. Alan Hudson, Rumson, N. J., won the tarpon class with a fish of 156 lbs. Bone-fishing also provided some spectacular results. In the plug casting division, William P. Meeker of Baltimore won with a bonefish of 8 lbs. 5 oz., while Earl McQuaide of Miami topped the fly casting division with a mammoth fish of 9 lbs. 15½ oz.

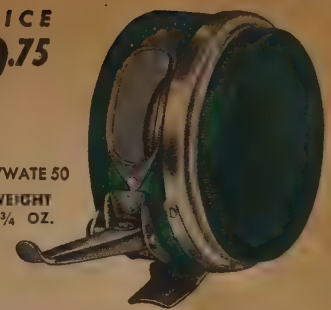
Other winners included: black bass, 8 lbs. 6 oz. by W. A. Pilkington, Miami; bonefish, 12 lbs. 5 oz., E. L. Mackey, Chicago; kingfish, 57 lbs. by Roy H. Wood, Baltimore; blue marlin, 342½ lbs. by Carlo M. Paterno, N. Salem, N. Y.; white marlin, 135½ lbs. by Dr. John S. Davis, New York City; sailfish, 84 lbs. by S. Poli Sheehan, New Haven, Conn.; bluefish, 4 lbs. 11 oz. by W. C. Witt, Miami.



TARPON ON A PLUG: Don McNeill, radio star of the Breakfast Club, grins with pride at the 11-pound baby tarpon he took on a yellow Darter plug and bait casting gear. He landed the fish at the mouth of Shark River in the Florida Everglades (Photo by Charles C. Ebbets)

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Questions and Answers

What Size Fly?

MR. WULFF: What size bass fly hook is best? I fish for both smallmouth and largemouth bass in the lakes.—S. M., Youngstown, Ohio.

The size of hook and fly will depend upon fishing conditions. The best bet is to have some flies as large as 2/0 and some as small as No. 4. The smallmouth usually like a slightly smaller fly than the largemouths. For average fishing a No. 1 hook is about right.—L. W.

Two Fish, One Lure

MR. WULFF: Please settle an argument for us. Will two fish go after the same lure at the same time?—C. J. Krause, Liverpool, N. Y.

They certainly will. I've had three fish make a rush at the same plug or fly. Fish are competitive in their feeding and will race one another to get a choice morsel and even after one has it another may chase after him to try to snatch it away if a portion of it is still exposed. Occasionally two fish are landed at the same time on multiple-hooked lures and I know of a couple of cases where under freak circumstances two fish have been brought in on a single hook.—L.W.

Proper Line Size

MR. WULFF: I have a 7-ounce fly rod. Please tell me what size line, level or torpedo, to use with it for salmon fishing.—H. G., Sydney, N. S.

The weight of the rod is not too good an indication of its power. Two rods of the same weight might require different lines. If your rod is of normal stiffness and 9 feet long, you can probably use a B level line or a GAF torpedo line. If it is very stiff, one size heavier would handle better and if it is soft, one size lighter.—L. W.

Keeping Worms

MR. WULFF: We are planning a fishing trip to northern Michigan where worms are extremely scarce. How can we keep nightcrawlers alive over a week or ten day period?—J. M., Continental, Ohio

Nightcrawlers may be kept alive by putting them into a worm box filled with good, clean earth or sphagnum moss. The earth or moss or a mixture of both in layers should be kept damp and when putting the worms into the box they should be placed on top and allowed to burrow their way down. Any injured or dead worms unable to do so should be discarded.—L. W.

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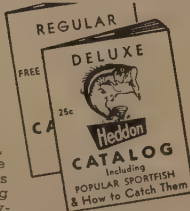
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WRITE FOR COMPLETE SPINNING CATALOG

ED ZERN'S PAGE

(Continued from page 18)

head of something. Farther on in the same issue there is a brief but indignant article called "Tiddler Snatching" which, as nearly as I could gather, had to do with the catching of undersized fish.

Incidentally, some of you birds who've been screaming about the high price of tackle may be interested in learning that new Pflueger Supreme reels are quoted for sale in the classified section of the *Gazette* at slightly over \$100 (figuring the pound at \$4.08, the current quotation at this writing).

Personally, I was frightfully impressed by this.

This month's helpful, at-your-service question-and-answer department.

Dear Mr. Zern: I have recently taken up trout fishing, and am anxious to learn how to tie my own flies. Could you tell me how to make a dry fly?

—Stan Cooper, Plymouth, Penna.

Dear Mr. Cooper: The simplest way to make a dry fly is to take a wet fly and rub it quickly with a Turkish towel.—E. Z.

THE KID CONNECTS

(Continued from page 13)

I felt sentimental Dutch's hand close hard on my shoulder. I knew how he felt. I swelled up too, as I tripped the shutter of my camera on my second-born with his first bass.

Orville, the quiet, 14-carat kind, rolled over on one hip and pulled out his wallet. That was Dutch's cue, for in the excitement he'd forgotten the bonus.

As I say, I'm not superstitious. Neither is Dutch. And Orville is a hard-headed businessman who doesn't believe in signs and omens. But after those lucky bucks had changed hands...

... Dave began to click. We circled



"Where were you, dear, during that terrible thunder storm?"

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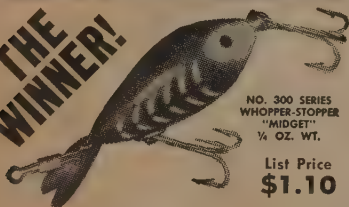
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the island three times. Each time he
picked up a bass.

Dutch and Orville began tossing plugs
at the shoreline. Failing to find any fish
among the rocks, they put on deep-
running plugs and trolled like Dave.
"Lazy fishin'," Dutch said, lolling back
in his seat.

Then Orville came up with a strike.
Dutch connected. Orville hung another.
And Dave, not to be outdone, matched
them fish for fish.

Nope, I'm not superstitious. But if I
hadn't brought the kid along George
Savard might not have mentioned that
the green and black-spotted plug drag-
ging bottom was the business for Lake
Havasu bass, nor would Orville have
offered the kid a buck if he'd catch the
first fish, nor would Dutch have matched
it.

Nor, best of all, would I have had
Dave say to me, after he'd arrived home
with his catch and told his 12-year-old
brother and mother all about it, "When
are we going fishing again, Papa?"

Because Mother replied, "Maybe you
ought to go next week and take both
the boys."

Which was just what I had always
wanted her to say!

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shown on the front and back covers of
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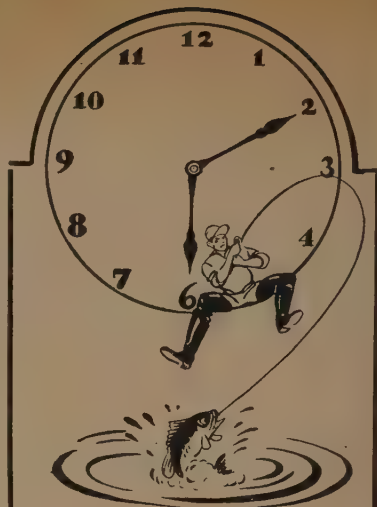
KENNEBAGO MAGIC

(Continued from page 17)

usually lick a fish in about one minute
for each pound of its weight, but I didn't
try such tactics then, for this trout was
one which I wanted to see. A two-pound
trout will take line just as fast and run
just as far as one twice its size, but there
is a feeling of power in the surges of the
larger one which immediately identifies
it. I could feel it then, not so much in
the boring runs, but in the turnings and
bulldog shakings as he tried to free him-
self from the restraining line.

The fight went on and on, but at last
there came a time when I knew that I
was going to win. It was not yet over,
but the runs were shorter and there were
brief intervals when the strain on the
rod eased as the old fellow paused for
a moment's rest.

Not until then did I realize that I
was playing to a gallery, but on glancing
up I saw that Everett's rod was in the
boat, and that he was as engrossed in



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the battle as was I. The smile on his face was beatific.

"Nice fish," he said.

I admitted that it felt like one.

"A three pounder?" he asked.

I thought back to some three-pounders I had taken in the past. "He's heavier than that," I said.

How much time had elapsed I do not know, but all at once I realized that twilight had deepened and night was hovering close. The battle, though, was also nearing the last round, for I had worked the fish closer to the boat, and once or twice I caught a glimpse of its distorted shape as it rolled wearily upon its side.

"He's about ready," Everett said. "Shall I net him?"

I thanked him, but I refused, for on a game fighter like that one I prefer to finish the job myself. There was another brief flurry, but when I drew him back again I knew that the moment had come. I picked up the net, put a bit more strain on the leader and slid the net under him.

Or almost under. In that vital split second while the net was not yet quite beneath him, the trout turned and with one powerful sweep of his broad tail batted the net aside. The leverage he gained by that contact was infinitesimal but it was enough, for the delicate leader parted with a sickening twang.

Behind me I could hear Everett repeating over and over, "Oh! Oh! I'm sorry! I'm sorry! I'm sorry!"

I was sorry too for a moment, but for a moment only. We had fought it out fairly, and I had lost. I stood my rod in the bow of the boat, socked the oars, and when Everett had lifted the anchor, headed across the lake toward camp. A lone star was shining in the west, and the soft chorus of light noises which comes to a lake when day merges into night was making itself heard. I bent to the oars and I never felt happier in all my life.



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OUTBOARD CRUISERS

By **ELON JESSUP**, BOATING EDITOR

*Here's comfort and maneuverability
afloat to fit the average pocketbook*

ONCE upon a time it was believed that any sort of power cruiser must necessarily be pushed by an inboard motor. This notion has lately undergone some revision. Why can't an outboard do it, too? One builder of small inboard cruisers decided to find out and today he supplies both. Prospective buyers will be interested to learn that the outboard installation can save one the not inconsiderable sum of about one thousand dollars.

The Davis boat building firm of Solomons, Maryland, created more than a riddle after the war by introducing a pint-sized, low-priced inboard cabin cruiser known as the Cruisalong. They have now come out with a 21-foot cruiser of the same design but with a stern equipped to carry any outboard motor of 10 hp. or more. And that, combined with a few extra fittings that standard inboard installations ordinarily carry, is where the thousand dollar difference comes in. Hulls are the same.

So what you've got is an outboard cabin cruiser, together with the sleeping and eating facilities implied in classifying any craft as a cruiser. But let's look further. This model is known as the Converter, which means that if at any time you feel so inclined and your pocketbook permits, it will be a simple matter to convert from outboard to inboard power. The boat is built with engine bed installed and shaft log bored. You have only to hoist an inboard motor aboard.

At the National Motor Boat Show where this versatile craft was first exhibited, I heard some of the crowd individually wonder if outboard motor power would really work as a genuine cruising proposition. The doubters evidently hadn't kept up with the times. For example, there was the home-built Poly-Wog, the 18-foot houseboat in which the entire Shepard family of six cruised 2300 miles of Mississippi and adjoining waters powered solely by an Evinrude Lightfour. This two-month

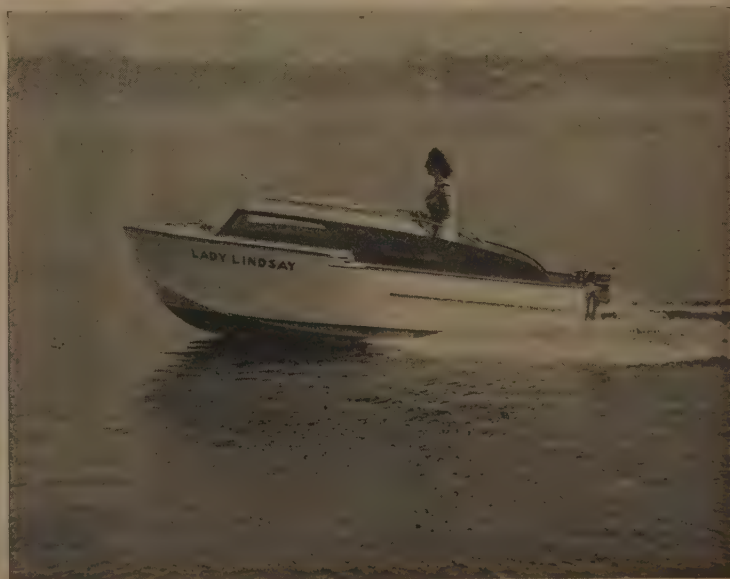
odyssey proved so successful that the following summer they cruised 1700 miles in Hudson River, Champlain and Canadian waters, lugging their houseboat to the point of embarkation by trailer.

A length of 21 feet seems to be about the limit for a satisfactory outboard cruiser and most of the stock boats of this type are less. From an inboard cruising standpoint, this must be classed as relatively cramped living space. However, your power plant is hanging over the stern instead of occupying useful space, which means not only a cleaner and sweeter boat but probably a safer one in that there is no gasoline aboard, with the possibility of fire. Further, there's no heavy engine to sink the boat in the event of a serious collision.

Wide diversity as to design, length and material exists among the various stock outboard cruisers being currently

produced. The smallest of which we have any record is the 14-foot 10-inch Cub, built by Liberty Coach of Bremen, Indiana, and weighing about 750 pounds. Builders suggest any outboard motor between 5 and 16 hp. as suitable, the result being a speed range of from 6 to 15 mph.

Design of the Cub differs radically from that of most other outboard cruisers in that it is scow-type, square as a board at the bow. For a 14-footer, this presents obvious advantages, allowing living quarters to be carried right up to the end of the square bow. Also because of the peculiar bow combined with a hull draft of only 4 to 6 inches, the boat can be driven ashore almost anywhere, permitting the crew to step ashore dryshod. The cabin is 8 feet long with 56 inches of headroom, has two berths 6 feet 5 inches long with locker space underneath. A locker in the bow provides



This 15-foot Shepard outboard cruiser has a comfortable cabin for two

additional space. A marine toilet can be built under the seat as an extra. The hull material is marine fir plywood.

Of about the same length but designed to more familiar lines is the new Shepard 15-foot outboard cruiser of 6-foot 4-inch beam produced by the Orono Boat Works of Wazata, Minn. She also weighs about 750 pounds and is obviously well built as the specifications reveal. There are sawn frames every two feet, inner and outer keelsons of oak, double planking throughout the hull.

The cabin is made of a one-piece molding of mahogany and birch covering the forward two-thirds of the boat. The entire sedan is turned into a double berth when the floor piece is raised level with the two cabin seats. A wide range of horsepower in outboard motors is feasible—anywhere from 5 to 33. With a 10 hp. motor the boat will carry 400 pounds in addition to her own weight for planing speed. The draft of the boat is only 6 inches and maneuverability appears to be exceptional. Builders in fact claim the boat can be operated at speed in any water and more safely than any other 15-foot boat that they have ever seen.

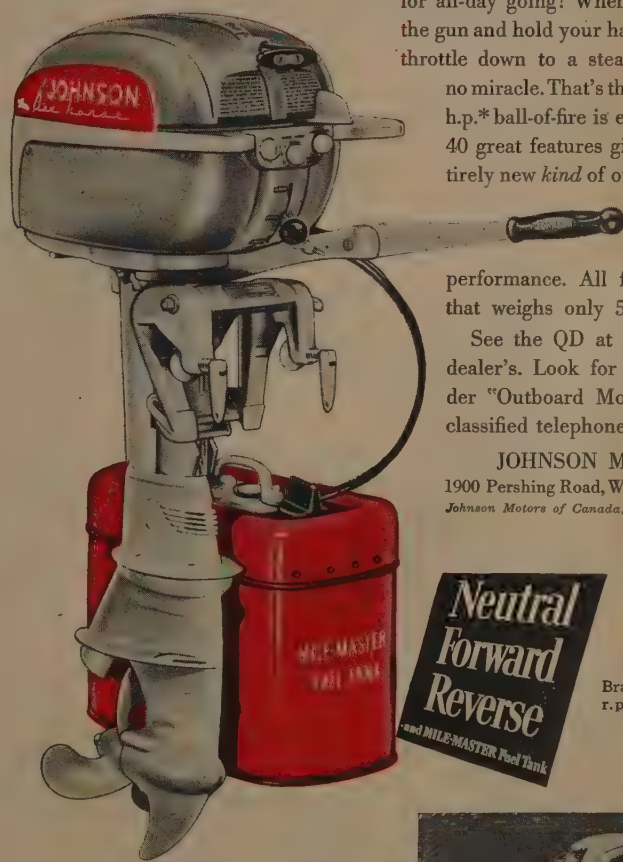
Fleetcraft Corporation of Philadelphia has lately gone into production with a plywood outboard cruiser slightly longer, a 16-footer of 6-foot 6-inch beam known as the Cruiseabout, weighing about 600 pounds. Outboard motor power recommendations range from 7½ to 22 hp. Airplane style wheel and throttle can be used, although these are classed as extras to standard equipment.

NEXT in length montage comes something very different, or at least as regards hull material. This is an 18½-foot outboard cruiser of aluminum known as the Aero-Craft, built by Harwill of St. Charles, Mich. The cabin measures 6 feet by 8 feet by 52 inches, the stern cockpit 6 feet, the windows and door being opened in fine weather and closed in foul. The cabin sleeps three. The boat weighs only about 550 pounds and can be loaded on a trailer by two people.

As for larger boats in this essentially small-boat class, the 21-foot Cruisalong has already been described. The only other 21-footer that appears to be in current production is the Culver cabin cruiser of 7-foot 4-inch hull beam and 5-foot cabin beam built by Culver Boat Corp. of Mentor, Ohio. Naturally, with a little more length you get a little more elbow room, as the Culver appears to bear out.

This boat has a sedan type of cabin with sizeable windows. There are two bunks with box-edge pads, a sink, two-burner stove and roomy cupboards. Standard equipment also includes a pilot's windshield, required running lights, mooring bitt, chocks, cleats and similar details. Space has been allotted for a toilet although the toilet itself and

You Won't Believe It!



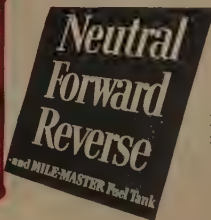
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an electric power plant are optional extras.

During trial runs, this craft is said to have developed a speed of 10 mph. when shoved by only 5 hp. outboard power. Larger motors, of course, can be used. As an interesting adjunct, a special trailer is being designed to haul the boat, the implication being that the prospective cruiser-trailer-housing unit will provide living quarters on land as well as on the water.

Summing up the possibilities of the outboard cabin cruiser in general, it looks as if this new type of craft might be in for a bright future. Any boat that combines some of the comfortable features of an inboard cruiser with the maneuvering adaptability of a canoe has its uses beyond a doubt.

Outboard Cruiser Plans

FOR the special benefit of those who prefer to build their own outboard cruisers, we urge the advisability of working specifically from a set of plans. A specialized craft of this type must be designed for its own purpose, buoyancy and the whole construction aft being taken into consideration. A hull intended for inboard installation will rarely if ever prove satisfactory with an outboard.

Among various outboard cruiser plans for home building, we are attracted by two from drawing boards of a firm of naval architects, Westlawn Associates of Montville, N. J., although the two haven't much in common. One shows a raised deck V-bottom 20-footer of 8-foot beam and normal draft of 1 foot 5 inches. It is a regular planking job. The cabin contains two berths, hanging space, a small galley and a toilet installed under one of the cabin seats. A motor of about 15 hp. is suggested. This motor won't be as easily transported on a trailer as some of the lightweight stock built boats.

Nor will she prove as easy for an amateur to build as the other craft just referred to; a pram or garvey type of cruiser measuring 16 feet overall. Water line length, you note, is almost 4 feet less, a fact that tells something about the possibilities of poking her bow up against a river bank and stepping ashore. Apparently, any outboard motor of 4 hp. and upward can be used, although one in the 12 to 16 hp. range appears to work out best. This should give about 14 mph. The boat seems essentially a river, bay or small lake job. Normal draft is 7 inches, displacement 1140 pounds.

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All the salt water charts are published by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Commerce Building, Washington 25, D. C. Agencies in most seaport towns—such as marine hardware dealers—sell these charts, or at least those relating to their own general vicinity. When planning a cruise, get a chart catalog listing the various charts of the territory concerned. From this, pick the charts you need. If the local agency hasn't a catalog, send to Washington. The charts include portions of tideway rivers, such as the Hudson from New York to Albany.

For the Great Lakes and various adjoining waters, including lakes in New York State and the Barge Canal, you will get charts from the U. S. Lake Survey, 630 Federal Building, Detroit 26, Mich. Here again, ask for a catalog, from which the individual charts required can be picked. U. S. Lake Survey charts even take in those wilderness waters off to the Northwest, Rainy Lake and Lake of the Woods.

For information on the Ohio River, write U. S. Engineer's Office, Cincinnati, Ohio. As for the Missouri, contact U. S. Engineer's Office, Kansas City, Mo. For Upper Mississippi waters and tributaries, consult U. S. Engineer's Office, 520 Merchandise Mart, Chicago. For the Mississippi in general, consult Mississippi River Commission, Vicksburg, Miss.

Canadian Hydrographic Service, Ottawa, Ontario, is the distributor of Canadian charts. A letter will bring a free catalog. For a Canadian backwoods canoe trip, write to the Canadian Government Travel Bureau, Ottawa.

It is generally known that the big oil companies distribute free a considerable amount of useful cruising guidance on coastal waters. It is less known that they are also doing quite well on inland waters, too. Here are some addresses worth writing for cruising guides: Cruise-guide Bureau, Gulf Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Socony-Vacuum Oil Co., 26 Broadway, New York; Texaco Waterways Service, 135 East 42nd St., New York.

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PORTABLE ACCURACY

They laughed when he sat down at the bipod but it proved to be a mighty useful gadget just the same

By MORFORD GRIMES

Col. H. P. Sheldon, Shooting Editor

I'VE READ a lot of highly authentic stuff about stalking, camouflage, windage, trajectory, tight grouping, how to sneak out of the house, and other game getting chit-chat, but so far as I'm concerned these boys missed the boat. I've followed their sermons almost as carefully as I have uncomfortably, but in spite of all this the game I shoot at lives to be shot at another time. This sort of thing is bound to have repercussions. You can bag a two-ton moose and even the next door neighbor won't know about it, but just miss two groundhogs in a row and it's worse than your friends finding you're a bigamist—I think.

In search of a way to regain social acceptance after whiffing a long line of groundhogs and crows I've finally come up with a simple little gadget that may interest other frustrated souls. I'll admit right at the start my invention will only

appeal to a few subnormal hunters like myself. The average nimrod who can hit a flying crow at three hundred yards offhand on a dark night in a gusty wind won't be interested. The rest of you please stick around.

For lack of a better name I shall call this little contraption a "bipod," although some cynics have suggested other names. The materials consist of two pieces of wood about 28 inches by 3 by $\frac{3}{4}$ inches, two pieces of felt, two flat washers and one lock washer, and a bolt and nut, the latter being hardware, not human. I believe the accompanying drawings will clarify things better than I can tell them, but I'll explain briefly anyhow.

Before going any further let me say none of these dimensions is arbitrary, and can be altered to fit the individual and his rifle. I only give these because I had to put down something definite.

After all, who ever saw a drawing with ambiguous dimensions. It just so happens these dimensions work nicely for the fat forestocks of model 52's and 37's, so they will be satisfactory for other rifles also, but probably larger than necessary.

First mark out one of the pieces to the approximate dimensions given, then jigsaw as marked. Using this piece as a template, mark and saw the other piece, then sand both pieces smooth. Attach the strips of felt as shown, with tacks, making sure the heads are well imbedded so as not to scratch the stock. Some fellows become very unhappy over a few harmless little scratches and gouges on their beautifully finished stocks. I'd recommend glue but so far I've never found any that would stick. Now test to see how far from the inside edges the bolt holes should be drilled. To do this snip off about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of the



This shows the finished bipod and the steps in its construction.

wire and drive about half its length into one of the pieces. Then measure or estimate closely where the corresponding spot will be on the other piece and press them together so they will hinge on a common axis the same as when finished. With a few trials, keeping the wire in the same relative spot on both pieces, the jaws should fit the stock perfectly. Then clamp the pieces with the parallel edges together and bore the bolt holes. Then bolt together. After the pieces are bolted together and all important dimensions are established, they can be taken apart and lightened to suit by removing excess wood, after which the job is finished as soon as it is reassembled.

Now for the advantages and disadvantages, and we'll dispose of the disadvantages first. Immediately some skeptic will pounce on the fact that the bipod has to be carried, and I have to agree. I've never seen one yet that was ambulatory. But by lightening, the finished product should weigh little more than a pound, and can be carried on the belt or elsewhere with ease and will hardly be noticed. The weight is a trifling detail. The worst hurdle is public opinion. My friends got themselves all over grass stains rolling on the ground holding their sides when they first saw mine. But don't let that bother you, your turn will come. Mine did.

Now the advantages. Obviously the question will be, Does the bipod offer any advantages over the kneeling, sitting and prone positions? We will rule out standing for the simple reason that it won't be used anyhow except when all other positions are impracticable. So we'll start at the top and work down. As for kneeling, that is an ideal position for praying for the average hunter and, while there are exceptions of course, most hunters will get as much game by prayer alone in this position as they

will with a rifle. Sitting is both comfortable and steady, but poses the problem of varied sling tension shooting uphill or down, and getting in position takes longer than with the bipod.

Besides, the bipod permits easy flexibility in height and movement impossible in the sitting position. Prone, of course, is extremely steady and is also the most democratic position of all. In a good prone position you learn to know every grasshopper and ant for yards around and, except in well cleared areas, will be able to see as much as 20 feet ahead. Here some purist may argue that prone is much more accurate than using the bipod, even if you can't see anything. To this I can only say my heavy 'scope-sighted target rifle will lay them inside an inch circle with the bipod at 100 yards. I know because I had a friend take the outfit and prove it to me. As compared to all the standard positions the bipod will allow any comfortable sitting position, considerable height adjustment, and is far faster than any other position of equal steadiness.

While I think its province is mostly in long range varmint shooting and insuring head shots with a .22, it may even have a place with those intrepid cliff-hopping characters who hunt sheep and goats. Almost any clear day you can see swarms of these gentlemen sneaking furtively up the side of a perpendicular mountain carrying nothing but a 'scope-sighted rifle, binoculars, telescope, camera, rope, knife, pistol, a few groceries, and a small stove. This is known as stalking. While I've never seen the bipod in such high society there certainly ought to be a place for it somewhere. After long hours of this precipice wiping your goat hunter has reached a point where he can look down on the goats. He does all this because it's considered bad taste to look up to anything as smelly as a goat.

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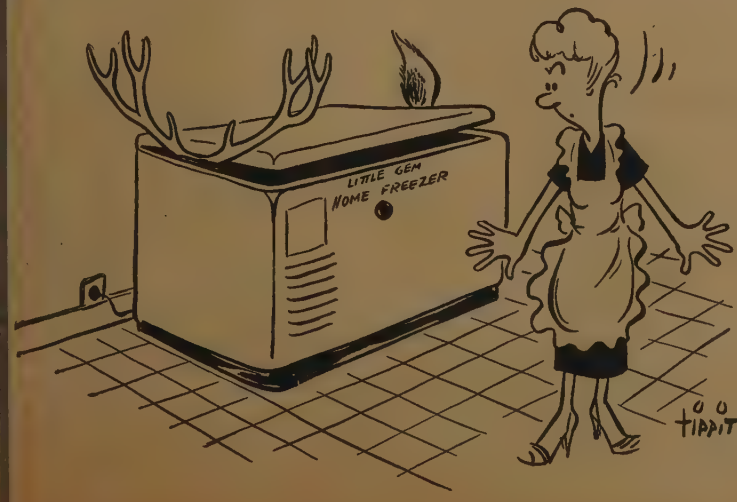
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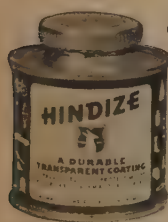


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My point is by the time he gets where all the goats are below him the atmosphere is bound to be a little rare inside the hunter as well as outside. All this makes accurate aiming a very jumpy proposition, but with the trusty bipod it should be no trouble at all to get his goat. The goat bagged, all he has to do is scuttle briskly back down the mountain to keep his prize from the wolves. It's a well known fact that any goat worth keeping immediately falls from above timber line to below sea level as soon as it's shot. It's the memory of this sort of yo-yo commuting that corrodes the soul of our mountain boy when he proudly lugs his prize home and his ever loving spouse informs him she doesn't care for goats, not even the front end.

But I'm getting off the subject. As I already mentioned, long range varmint shooting with super-accurate rifles, and vital hits with the .22 is where the bipod really shines. Practically all varmint hunters are also target shots and don't need to be told what happens when they zero their rifle with a sling and then shoot with a rest, or vice versa. Even a heavy target rifle takes a very dim view of this sort of variety, and light ones are correspondingly worse. With the bipod there is no variation at all in the support, so the problem of the wandering zero disappears.

WITH THE bipod a rifleman of average skill and equipped with an accurate, well sighted .22 should take chucks with head shots up to 100 yards. My own system is to walk toward a chuck as if I had nothing but the most benign intentions toward him. He usually assumes from the array of 'scope, rifle, binoculars and bipod that I'm on my way somewhere to fix a fence. This way I can get within about 80 yards, at which point I unfurl the bipod and rifle and assume a position of luxurious ease. Naturally the chuck still concludes I have no more sinister motives than getting my breath, so he continues to regard me with a tolerant and amused eye. The next chapter of his biography, of course, takes place in the kitchen and dining room. But even if he is a little suspicious and eases back in his burrow he'll be out soon, and you can be sitting comfortably with the 'scope trained on the hole ready for the first glint of a beady eye. Try holding such an aim in any other position. And if you don't hold it and the chuck sees you squirming into position when he comes out, back he goes—and for keeps.

Another small point, but one I've found useful, is the ease of inspecting the mouths of distant burrows through a high powered target 'scope, quite a chore normally even with binoculars.

If my bipod idea is old stuff to some

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I can only offer my apologies, but I don't believe it will be to many. And if it will help others as much as it has me and spoil some stories about the "ones that got away" I'll think it's worthwhile.

More Ducks for Fall?

DON'T look now, but there may be more ducks and geese on the wing when the shooting season opens next fall. At least, that is the encouraging prospect revealed in the annual inventory of the waterfowl wintering grounds, conducted last January in areas stretching from Alaska down to Guatemala.

Without releasing actual figures, Al Day, director of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said that he was "much encouraged" by the increases. However, since 1949 duck shooting regulations depend upon what is learned from the inventory of the summer breeding grounds, Day would not predict whether or not shooting restrictions may be relaxed, but he did say that "it does look encouraging."

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(Continued from page 15)

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"Must've been three hundred pigeons in that flock if there were ten!" Jerry exclaimed. "Hey, here comes another bunch, just over the farmhouse—"

I gripped the gunstock, thumb hovering over the safety. But the birds heading straight for our snag veered off sharply, and followed the fence line as the big flock had done, but lower. We heard muffled reports, and two birds quit abruptly and came down. A cripple slanted into the pea stubble, and a huge white setter bounded from the fence row to make the retrieve.

"Looks like we got end-zone seats for the big game," Jerry grumbled. "But I've seen a bird dog retrieve a pigeon, an' they're supposed to hate the smell of em."

By quarter to nine we'd counted twenty-three flocks of pigeons that had crossed the big field, yet the shells we'd originally loaded with were still unfired. But the hunters along the fence rows were having a field day.

"Some days you can't lay up a squab," Jerry said. "And to think we could have been—"

"Comin' in, Jerry! From the water!"

I aimed and shot at the same time, and Jerry recovered in time for two quick ones, but neither of us pulled a feather. The birds had swept in from the sea, hovered briefly around the snag, and then sailed out of range, high over the field and fence row.

"That's what Oscar meant, but how the devil can they come off the salt chuck?" Jerry asked ruefully. "Can pigeons swim?"

We had a partial answer minutes later, from Oscar's blind. Up the beach line came three pigeons, lifting like gliders with the wind as they spotted the snags. They hurtled over the bluff at high speed, stalled on the backswing like a careful golfer, and hovered above the top limb. Two birds folded cleanly, the wind carrying them to the pea field edge.

"I've seen everything now," Jerry said. "With pigeons comin' in like malarkeys, it's time to—"

"Mark!" I yelled.

In they came from the ocean, a small flock, but much too high when they first buzzed the field. They turned and beat back toward our snags, the tapered wings flapping desperately to hold direction, like teal in a hurricane.

"Let's take 'em!" Jerry hissed.

Over-optimism. I was still kneeling when I pulled the first shot, and the kiting target never wavered. I increased the lead to a full ten feet, felt the gun slam my shoulder—and clipped a wing on an out-goer. The bird dropped into the pea field as Jerry hammered away.

"My big chance for a double, and you

louse it up with a wing tip!" he complained. "We better pick 'em up; I dropped one in the middle of that scrub oak patch, an' I don't wanta lose 'im."

He clumped into the thorny brush while I picked up the two birds that fell in the field. The breeze had quickened to measurable wind velocity, and I leaned into it going back to the blind. Jerry snorted in, gripping a bird and pointing behind me.

"Good Lord, look!"

Over a small knob on the bluff edge swept a great mass of bandtails, the wind washing them quickly in over the field. Seven, maybe eight hundred birds! They planed with the wind, swept over the fence row high out of range, and clattered into the middle of the field. When the last bird had finally settled from the "landing circle" formation peculiar to pigeons and widgeon, the first-grounded birds took off. For five minutes we watched escalator maneuvers; up, down, hover, move a hundred yards upfield, edge two hundred down. In a great, dry noise of wings, they all finally mushroomed from the pea field.

"They're c-c-comin' this way!" Jerry stuttered, his hand cupping my ear.

"Let the first ones come," I answered. "We'll get a better shot at the tail-enders."

Like teal, or maybe plover, the band-tails beat into the wind. Then the big flock split, some veering toward the three snags to our right. The rest came on in wavering flight, until the air above swarmed with banking, wind-tossed pigeons.

We'd both been dry-running with our front sights, and now the rear guard moved in under the leaders. "Tracking" paid off, and I marked my falling bird in a wild-rose clump. I pulled on another, and with Jerry's help a second and third bandtail came down. We frantically shoved fresh shells into chambers, doubled on a straggler, then watched the huge flock fleeing for inland scrub fir.

"That's something to remember," Jerry said. "Something to tell our grandchildren."

"Well, let's pick 'em up. The birds, not grandchildren."

We located our bandtails against determined rose-bush resistance. Oscar and Cary were in the fringe, retrieving birds from their part of the big flock. Oscar held up four fingers, and returned to his blind. The wind increased to where even shouted words went unheard.

Birds were in the air, small flocks. But they were more wary now, drifting over the pea field two shots high before plummeting into the field to feed. At any movement they rose in a mass and

circled upward before speeding off to the safety of distant evergreens.

Two more pigeons joined our bag from a small flock that gave the snag a careless look-see—and five times that many shell cases bounced from the rose leaves during the next half hour. Then we picked up our birds, and joined Oscar and Cary at the field edge. The four of us had collected twenty-one prime, bandtail pigeons.

"Limit's ten a day, but my farm limit is six, and even that's more than most hunters use," Oscar said. "After we clean 'em, I'm gonna buy you fellers—"

"We promised our wives no drinking," Cary interrupted.

"—A pigeon dinner you'll never forget," Oscar finished.

Cary became a silent partner. But after we'd plucked the birds and Mrs. Harris worked her wood-range magic, he talked enough. The fellow who wrote a book listing America's top eating places had never visited the Harris kitchen. Jerry reached lazily for a toothpick.

"How come pigeons come in from the ocean, Oscar?"

Oscar sighed, and patted his mouth carefully with a napkin.

"Bandtails go for food and water more than other game birds," he answered. "They water early. Along salt water they're chased out of fields into cover. If you noticed, there's heavy second growth on each end of the pea fields, and that makes fields like mine perfect for them. The easiest way back to feed grounds is with the wind, so they come in from the salt water, without much choice."

"You needin' more pea harvest hands next year?"

"Hah! Wait'll your wife—" Cary began.

Six of us—three experienced—are on Soundview Farms' payroll, come next pea season.



"I only wanted to show him my new shotgun!"



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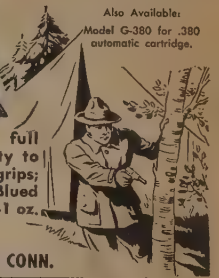
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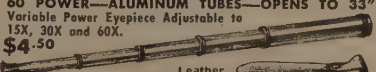
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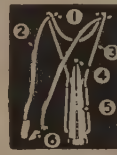
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BENCH AND FIELD

By HENRY P. DAVIS, KENNEL EDITOR

*What happens to bench winners in the field
and to field trial champs on the bench?*

DURING the past winter I attended several of our largest bench shows. Naturally, I spent most of my time watching the judging of the sporting group. It has always been our contention that the pointing breeds can be dogs of great beauty and at the same time possess excellent field qualities. Yet when one calls to memory's eye some of the greatest field trial winning dogs of the present and recent past it is easy to realize that very few of the pointers and setters that are successful in today's field trials could win any sort of recognition in the show ring.

By the same token, when a field dog enthusiast watches the average group of bench show pointers and setters being put through their paces in the show ring, it is not hard for him to come to the conclusion that very few of this group could offer much serious competition in field

trials. Bench show pointers and setters are generally beautiful animals in pose or repose, but it is when he sees them in action that the field dog man is inclined to look askance on the entire lot. The dogs are moved at the end of a short leash with the handler generally holding the dog's head so that his front feet seem barely to touch the floor. This seems to give the dog an exaggerated hackney-horse sort of gait which is entirely impractical in rough terrain. Yet when they are occasionally shown on a long leash some of the gaits seem even more awkward.

In this correspondent's humble opinion, the terms "free movement, reaching, good drive behind" are too loosely used by some bench show judges and exhibitors. I am convinced that some of the winners I saw at these shows are entirely

incapable of sustaining a free gallop over rough country for any appreciable length of time, much less register what field dog men term "flashy action." I saw one well known Irish setter bring the house down with an exhibition of good tail action but with the front feet apparently trying to climb a set of invisible stairs. Such a gait is certainly not conducive to speed or endurance.

Bench show contenders are seldom shown in field condition and this seems a pity to me. Dogs fully muscled for field work are inclined to be a bit "loaded" in the shoulders, according to bench show standards, but at least they look capable of doing a day's work afield. The sleek softness of the bench show champions' lines are pretty to look at, but after all sporting dogs are working dogs and gunners often wonder if this type of dog is practical in the field. If the bench

PHOTO BY PERCY T. JONES



Art Mulrihill pilots Leo Dunn's champion pointer, Beacon's Game Lad, to a win at Westminster

how dog was developed and trained for the field he might surprise you, but he'd have to change his gait if he got the job done in a manner to suit the hard-bitten runner.

Could the field trial winning dogs of the past win on the bench? The answer is they could and did, frequently. The early custom was to show them in both departments of performance. Yet the great setter bitch, Sioux, could hardly have competed on the bench in her day due to her diminutive size. The sensational pointer bitch, Triple National Champion Mary Montrose, won at Madison Square Garden, but National Champion Mary Blue would hardly be expected to walk away with any blue ribbons. Eugene's Ghost was one of the most handsome setters this writer ever saw and may have garnered bench show honors if shown, but Sport's Peerless, ash personified in the field would never have covered himself with glory in the show ring.

THINK the best looking group of field performing bird dogs I ever saw were the pointers of Samuel G. Allen. This noted sportsman has enjoyed an enviable career both as a bench show and field trial judge. He bred for type as well as for performance and saw no reason why one could not be obtained in the same dog. And during his active career as a winter breeder his dogs were not only handsome individuals conforming well to a proper interpretation of the standards but acquitted themselves well and with great efficiency in the shooting field. Harry D. Kirkover had both pointers and setters of the dual type and was successful in field trials as well as in the show ring. It can be done, but, taken as a whole, there is a considerable difference in looks and certainly in gait between the field trial dog and the bench show dog of today. And this, in my opinion, is important, for I feel that a dog worthy of the title champion should be physically capable of doing the job for which he was bred.

Bench show and field trial type differences do not seem to be as great among the retrievers, spaniel and hound breeds. Practically every foxhound and beagle trial has a bench show in connection, and quite often the field winners share honors on the bench. A number of well known retrievers and English springer spaniels are dual winners and occasionally a field trial winning cocker spaniel cores on the bench.

An interesting comparison study was recently conducted by the Gaines Dog Research Center. A single individual, using the same methods, measured for comparative purposes a number of field trial and bench show winning pointers, setters and English springer spaniels. The results bore out to some extent the contention of many old-timers that bench dogs are growing steadily larger while



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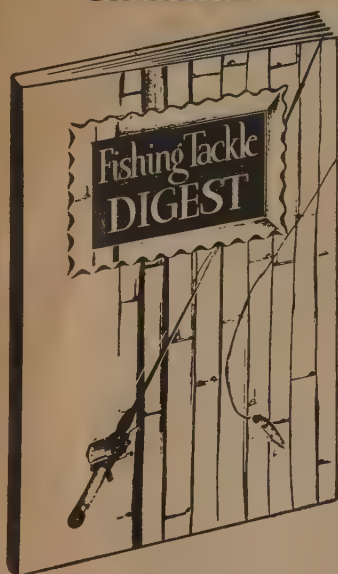
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field dogs are remaining about the same in size. My thirty-odd years of active experience lead me to feel that that statement about sums it up, although even in the past there were a goodly number of English setters on the small size, but probably not so many smaller pointers as today.

In an article published in *Dog Research Progress*, the complete measurements of the pointers, Champion Tarheelia's Lucky Strike and National Champion Saturn and Bench Champion Rolew Sensation, the field champion setters, Rumson Farm Loch and Peerless Decision and the bench champion Maro of Maridor and the field champion English springer spaniel Biff of Riverside and the bench champion Showman of Shotton were given. Copies of the article may be obtained by writing Harry Miller, Gaines Dog Research Center, 250 Park Avenue, New York.

In height Lucky Strike and Saturn measured 22½ and 22½ inches at the shoulder just back of the legs while the tape read 27½ inches on Sensation. The latter weighed 72 pounds against Saturn's 52, but field condition undoubtedly played some part in this.

Maro of Maridor registered a height of 24½ inches against 21½ inches for Rumson Farm Loch and 23 inches for Peerless Decision. The bench show English springer was almost 2 inches taller than the field trial champion.

Measurements don't make the bench champion and they certainly don't cut any great figure among field dogs. It is *balance* that counts most. But a field trial performer must have more than balance. He has to have the will to do and the heart to carry him through. Balance

in conformation will undoubtedly aid him to do his job easier and with less fatigue, but if he hasn't the fire and determination he cannot compete on even terms with the slightly unbalanced dog that has an abundance of these qualities. Bench show dogs are too seldom used in the field, although some have been and are good gun dogs. Most of them are rather placid in demeanor and few possess the verve, great desire and intensity of purpose which characterize the successful field performer. It is a hope, perhaps forlorn, that breeding minds can meet on a more common ground in the future.

Sierra Joan Wins National

IN a sparkling display of bird finding and perfect gun manners, Sierra Joan, six year old white and orange pointer bitch, owned by Harry E. McGonigal of Kokomo, Ind., and handled by Howard Kirk, won the National Bird Dog Championship for 1949 after a week of competing against a field of 28 pointers and 2 English setters over the famed courses of the Ames Plantation at Grand Junction, Tenn.

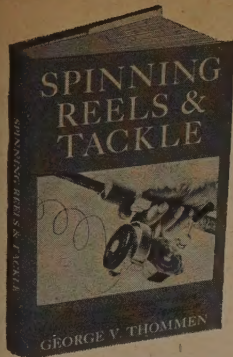
Joan's win of the top title in bird dogdom climaxes a career fraught with interesting, and sometimes, sensational performances. In her puppy year she attracted attention by winning several places. In 1945, she won three placements in open competition, one of which was the runner-up position in the Dominion Chicken Championship. The following year she repeated for the same honors in the Canadian classic. She qualified for the National Championship in 1947 by winning the title in the All-America Club's Chicken Championship.



Sierra Joan, winner of the National Bird Dog Championship at Grand Junction

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on the Canadian prairies. Later that year she was runner-up in the National Pheasant Championship. In 1948, she won the Continental Quail Championship at Quitman, Ga., in what is probably the greatest bird finding feat in modern field trial history. She also made a strong bid for the National Championship, only to be topped by the sensational performance of the pointer, Peter Rinski.

The McGonigal color-bearer did not have it easy in this year's Championship. During the first 1½ hours in her first series, Joan ran rather restricted in range, but in the last half of her heat she demonstrated great bird finding abilities, excellent style and perfect manners under the gun to greatly improve her status in the stake. Her bird score was 10 covies and two singles, all handled without an error. She was charged with one unproductive point.

It required a second series to clinch Joan's claim to the title. Here she was braced with Paladin, her half-brother by a different sire, and owned by A. G. C. Sage of New York. Paladin, a brilliant performer two years her junior, had turned in a most impressive race and hung up a splendid bird score to rate another chance. His was a bold, slashing effort, which some considered a bit too independent for National Championship standards. In the second series, he did not handle too kindly for Clyde Morton, who is responsible for his development, and some of his big flings were frowned upon. Given another year's seasoning under the capable hands of Morton, and this correspondent predicts that Paladin will be the dog to beat in the 1950 renewal of the famed championship event.

IN HER second series appearance Joan scored on 4 covies of quail, but her work on singles was not distinguished. She had, however, a considerable edge on Paladin when ordered up. The win is the twelfth placement for Joan and her third title. She has proved her proficiency on three species of game birds, quail, pheasants and prairie chicken.

Joan's win marked the end of a long trail for Harry McGonigal. The popular Indiana sportsman has tried to add the National Championship trophies to his collection on numerous occasions. He came close with Amazon's Village Girl. The setter, Mississippi Zev, outshone Tyson, another McGonigal contender, in a brilliant performance. And Sierra Joan barely missed the jackpot last year when Peter Rinski ran a practically unbeatable heat. Incidentally, Peter Rinski made a bold bid for a successful title defense in this stake, but the bitch outshadowed him.

The judges this year were the veteran, Nash Buckingham, who has served in this stake more often than any other living man, Dr. T. Benton King and Cecil S. Proctor.

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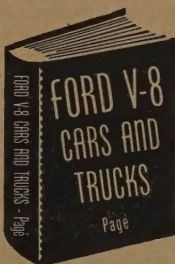
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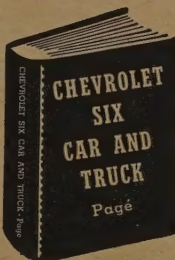
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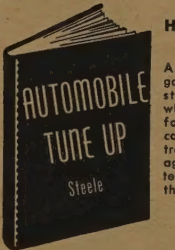


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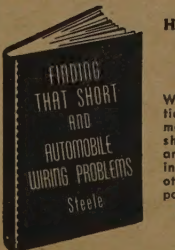
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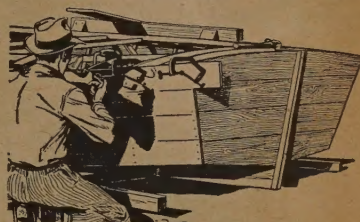
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ADVERTISERS' INDEX

Page

Amherst Fishing Rod Co.	28
Angora Assn.	43
Arbogast & Co., Fred	21
Arndt Metalcraft Corp.	34
Ball Clinic	43
Bancroft Cap Co.	4
Bartlett Engineering Co.	22
Bean, Inc., L. L.	38
Boyd Hayden & Co.	31
Brownscope Co.	4
Brule Valley Nurseries & Evergreen Crafts	38
Burrighs Co., F. S.	30
Carver Products Co.	24
Chapleau Lodge	5
Cold River Gun Shop	40
Colley's Sandy Point Camps	6
Colt's Manufacturing Company	38
Creek Club Bait Co.	26
Delta Electric Co.	24
Drag-It Sinkers & Lures	22
Drake's Outdoor Enterprises	43
Dunham Pontiac Marine Dept.	35
Dunphy Boat Corp.	35
Evinrude Motors	3
Fasteeth	43
Fishmaster Co.	24
Farm-A-Lure Co., The	3, 26
Frabill Mfg. Co.	27
Geneva Mfg. Co.	24
Glover Co., Inc., H. Clay	45
Goetz Company	28
Gulf Hamsters	43
Harbauer Mfg. Co.	30
Heddon's Sons, James	24, 28
Helin Tackle Co.	28
High Standard Mfg. Corp.	41
Hind Company, Thomas J.	38
Hoppe, Inc., Frank A.	40
Horrocks Ibbotson Co.	23
It Products, Inc.	29
Johnson Motors	33
Klein's Sporting Goods	7
Lyman Gun Sight Corporation	38
Mac-Mills	24
Maine Development Commission	31
Manitoba Travel and Publicity Bureau	5
Marble Arms & Mfg. Co.	39
Marion County Chamber of Commerce	5
Martin Automatic Fishing Reel Co.	27
Metal Products Corp.	35
Michigan Wheel Company	34
Migis Lodge	5
Miller & Co., Melvin G.	39
Missouri Lodge	34
Mor-San Sales	34
National Turkey Institute	45
New Brunswick Game and Forest Bureau	2
Information & Tourist Travel	22
Newton Line Co., Inc.	2
Northwestern School of Taxidermy	37
Nova Scotia Bureau of Information	29
Old Fisherman	24, 26, 31
Old Town Canoe Company	34
Otto, Richard S.	6
Penn Fishing Tackle Mfg. Co.	29
Penn Yan Boats, Inc.	34
Penrod Co., Inc.	6
Peaque Works, Inc.	25
Plastic Wood	35
Red Demon Industries	24
Richardson Rod & Reel Co.	25
Rockaway Sales Co.	28
Russellure Mfg. Co., Inc.	26
Scheer's Ghost Lake Lodge	6
Scott-Atwater Manufacturing Company	Back Cover
Seiberling Rubber Company	43
Sergeant's	9
Shakespeare Company	43
Simonize Co., The	22
Slingo Co., The	41
South Bend Bait Company	19
Sportsman's Map Co.	2nd Cover
Standard Equipment Co.	24
Star Metal Bait Company	34
Steel, Inc., Frank R.	22
Stoeger Arms Corp.	40
Streever, Fred	24
Sunset Line & Twine Co.	21
Target Arms	38
Thommen Sports Equipment Co., Inc.	28
Thompson Bros. Boat Mfg. Co.	34
U-Mak-It Products	34
United Products Co.	4, 22
Weaver Company, W. B.	41
West Palm Beach Fishing Club	6
Wham-O Mfg. Co.	40
White's Rabbitry	43
Whopper-Stopper Bait Co., Inc.	30
Winchester Repeating Arms Co.	37
Winthrop Associates	25
Zink Bait Co.	26

WHO'S GIVING THE FISH A BREAK?

(Continued from page 11)

—a definite advantage for the light tackle angler.

As for rods, the "fairy wand" stick is not solely a handicap to the angler and a measure of his sportsmanship. Not only does it allow him to use a finer line with reduced visibility and drag, but it lets him cast for longer periods without tiring. The stiff, powerful rod is a great implement for throwing a long line but it is not necessarily the best rod for playing a fish. The spring and shock-absorbing qualities of a rod are its most valuable assets in fighting heavy fish. These important qualities are greatest in the lighter rods whose tapers give the maximum delicacy of tip action and the widest range of shock-absorbing power. When it comes to giving the fish a break the stiff rod will permit more fish to gain their freedom, often by tearing the hooks from their jaws, while the soft one properly handled, will bring the greatest percentage to the net.

UP TO a reasonable point the finer the gear the more of our present-day "educated" fish it will take. When an angler first changes to fine tippets he may lose quite a few fish, but he'll look more, and in time save more than he ever did with heavier gear. All of which will be no surprise to anyone who has ever taken a big game fish on very light gear. Marlin can be caught on lines that won't lift a tenth of their dead weight. This is possible because the live fish tires himself out by his own efforts, running and jumping in a frenzy to free himself. The situation in fresh water is exactly the same. If a fish can be encouraged to spend his strength in runs and leaps

he'll tire more quickly than he would if he spent it in dogged resistance to a much greater pull of heavy tackle. And that is the way most anglers who switch to fine tackle find it.

There's every reason to believe that long, fine leaders and lighter rods are more deadly fishing instruments. From the fish's point of view, therefore, they are less sporting. What's the next step? We can't very well require fishermen to use heavy gear as a means of conserving our game fish supply. But there is a way in which they can use and enjoy delicate tackle and still give the fish a real sporting chance.

They can use barbless hooks. It is no difficult to land fish on an unbarbed hook; it just takes a little more practice and places a higher premium on the angler's rod-handling skill. Better yet the use of these hooks permits him to catch as many fish as he wishes (if he can!) and return without harm those which he does not want to take home. That means more fish in our streams more "educated" fish that will be both larger and harder to catch—and more real sport for the fisherman.

The symbol of a small gold barbless hook or barbless fly on the lapel might well be the badge of pride among fishermen. It would mark him as one who gives the fish a "break" by leaving in the stream many he could have taken out if he wished.

Fine leaders will take more fish; barbless hooks will permit more of them to live to strike and fight again another day. The angler who really wants to give the fish a sporting chance might do well to combine the two.



"Any luck?"